MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

19 JANUARY 1981

American Hostages

Following a flurry of diplomatic exchanges, Algeria announced that the United States and Iran have reached agreement for the release of the hostages. Algiers radio reported the conclusion of the agreement shortly after U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Warren Christopher signed the Algerian Government statement containing the terms of the agreement. Meanwhile, Iranian Minister of State for Executive Affairs Behzad Nabavi told Tehran radio that the hostages would be released only after Iran receives notification from Algeria that the agreement has been signed and the transfer of frozen assets is underway. The minister stressed that Iran has not signed any agreement with the United States but instead has agreed with the Algerian Government statement. Nabavi added that the team of Algerian doctors has begun to examine the hostages prior to their release.

AFP reported that the two Algerian planes scheduled to bring out the hostages have arrived in Tehran and have requested a return clearance through Ankara "in the course of Monday afternoon (19 January)."

In an earlier interview with PARS, Nabavi said Iran considered the final days of the Carter administration to be the "last opportunity" for an agreement because a U.S. failure to listen to Iran's "lawful and logical demands" would have meant a complete change in Iran's policy. The minister indicated that Iran is to receive all of its readily available frozen assets, while those under dispute will be settled by arbitration.

Iranian Domestic Affairs

Minister's Resignation--AFP, citing the newspaper TEHRAN TIMES, reported that Deputy Foreign Minister Jamshid Haqgu resigned "to protest against work conditions" at the Foreign Ministry. Haqgu earlier had called Iran's present foreign policy "unrealistic" and had urged Iran's attendance at the upcoming Islamic summit conference in Saudi Arabia.

Friday Imam on Army--Tehran's Friday imam, 'Ali Khamene'i, told worshippers that the armed forces are exerting "sincere and loyal efforts," Tehran radio's Arabic service said, but denounced "enemies" who are trying to incite "sedition" among the armed forces and the people, trying to create differences between the two. He said that among the vast majority of loyal fighters there are "rare examples" of combatants who "do not harbor in their hearts the spirit of the Islamic revolution."

Defense Council on Morale, War News--Tehran radio reported that the Publicity Headquarters of the Supreme Defense Council has followed up Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni's previously reported speech to bazaaris calling for an end to public discussion of the war with a further plea to the public not to raise "peripheral issues" and mount "excessive propaganda" which will sap morale and create differences. The Supreme Defense Council added that public discussion of the war will make military information available to the enemy and create a "climate of distrust." The statement called on officials in the mass media to coordinate their coverage of the war with the council prior to publication.

Iranian-Syrian Relations

Tehran radio reported that Iran and Syria signed a bilateral agreement providing for joint cooperation on land, sea and air transportation, including the opening of a new air route between Tehran and Damascus. The radio said that Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad reiterated his support for Iran and its "fight against imperialism."

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Palme Mission--UN special envoy Olof Palme held separate meetings with President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, Prime Minister Mohammad Raja'i and Majlis Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani to discuss the Iran-Iraq conflict and possible solutions to it. In remarks reported by Tehran radio, Bani-Sadr rejected Iraq's latest offer for negotiations conveyed by Palme, saying that Iran "cannot accept conditions which negate the fruits of our Islamic revolution." Ayatollah Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, however, told the radio that the Supreme Defense Council has requested from Palme certain clarifications to "ambiguities" regarding the Iraqi proposals.

Bani-Sadr on War--Following a meeting with Ayatollah Khomeyni to report on the war, President Bani-Sadr told PARS that Iran destroyed one Iraqi division and two brigades in its latest offensive. While the Iranian Army "is much better than it was before," Bani-Sadr noted, limited facilities available in Iran mean that Iran cannot end the war "in a couple of days." Urging patience, the president said "time is needed to solve the problem."

Hammadi Negotiation Offer--Foreign Minister Sa'dun Hammadi said that Iraq is ready to hold negotiations with Iran on the basis of respect for each other's rights and the mutual return of all seized territories. In remarks reported by QNA, Hammadi welcomed a possible meeting between President Saddam Husayn and President Bani-Sadr at the Islamic summit conference.

Saddam Husayn Interview--President Saddam Husayn asserted that Iraq did not go to war with Iran to cause the collapse of the Islamic revolution but to safeguard Iraq's sovereignty and defend Arab rights. In a wide-ranging interview with the Kuwaiti newspaper AL-QABAS, Saddam Husayn said Iran has clearly been defeated and is prolonging the war "without justification." While noting that the Soviet Union has taken a neutral position in the Gulf war, the Iraqi president declared that Iran is using Soviet weapons obtained from Syria and Libya and he attacked their support for Iran. Saddam Husayn termed Arab support for Iraq as "insufficient," saying that a lack of support encouraged Iran to prolong the war.

Military Situation--Tehran radio reported fierce fighting on the Ahvaz, Susangerd and Hoveyzeh fronts and noted that Iraqi artillery had shelled Dezful, Abadan and Gilan-e Gharb. The radio claimed successes by Iranian commando units on the Ilam front. Iraqi General Command communiques carried by INA confirmed the shelling of Abadan and said Iranian forces in Gilan-e Gharb were forced to retreat. An earlier communique claimed that Iraqi forces carried out a successful raid on Dehloran, briefly entering the town on 14 January. The town of Al-Huwair, the communique went on, is now completely under Iraqi control.

Kurdish Situation

Tehran radio reported that a joint army-revolution guards corps statement issued in Kordestan proclaimed an amnesty for any member of the "illegal and agent groups" who surrenders by 11 February, providing he has not "committed murder."

Gulf Islands

In an interview with Riyadh television, the UAE minister of state for foreign affairs, Rashid 'Abdallah, said the UAE is working hard to ensure the return of the three Gulf islands occupied by Iran in 1971. The UAE wants to regain its "rights," he said, through "peaceful and brotherly means." KUNA reported that Qatar's minister of state for foreign affairs, Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf at-Thani, announced his country's support for the UAE demand for the restoration of the islands. KUNA also reported that the question of the islands was discussed at a meeting in Damascus between Syrian Prime Minister Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm and visiting Iranian Transport Minister Musa Kalantari. In an interview with Kuwaiti newspapers reported by INA, Iraqi President Saddam Husayn reiterated his

demand for the restoration of the islands as a prerequisite to stopping the war, along with an Iranian acceptance of Iraq's own territorial "rights." SPA reported that Habib Chatti, Islamic Conference Organization general secretary, said that the islands will be discussed at the forthcoming Islamic summit meeting.

Islamic Summit Conference

SPA reported that in a speech to the Islamic foreign ministers conference in At-Ta'if which is preparing an agenda for the forthcoming Islamic summit conference, Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal regretted the absence of Iran and other member states from the meeting. Later, at a press conference reported by Riyadh television, Al-Faysal expressed hope that Iran will be persuaded to attend the Islamic summit. Although GNA reported that the Syrian and Palestinian delegations in At-Ta'if are holding contacts with Iran in an attempt to persuade it to attend the summit conference, Abu Dhabi radio announced that according to Islamic Conference Secretary General Chatti, Iran has already officially notified the organization that it will not attend. Citing a statement by Prince Al-Faysal, the radio said that Libya has also officially declined to attend the summit.

In his speech to the ministers, Al-Faysal noted that the political items on the agenda will focus on: Palestine, particularly the "Judaization of Arab Jerusalem;" in Afghanistan the need to "bolster the struggle of the Muslim Afghan people" in order to achieve a Soviet withdrawal and Afghan self-determination; the Iran-Iraq conflict, which Al-Faysal described as a "particularly important item" because of its "negative repercussions" on Islamic unity. "Serious discussions" about the conflict must be held at the summit conference, he said, in order to find a "peaceful objective solution."

Saudi Deputy Prime Minister Crown Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, in a newspaper interview reported by SPA, said the summit conference must discuss the concept of jihad and adopt a "comprehensive" jihad with "money, men, economy and even arms."

Damascus radio reported that during his visit to At-Ta'if Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam said that Syria and the PLO have prepared a working paper on the Arab-Israeli conflict for the Islamic summit which stresses the primary role of the Palestine question in the Middle East conflict. Voice of Palestine radio reported that Faruq Qaddumi, the PLO delegation leader at the Islamic foreign ministers meeting and Political Department head, also said the summit conference should give priority to the Palestine problem and Islamic states should adopt "sterner" stances on the issue than they have previously done, including taking "feasible measures" against the United States. According to Damascus radio, Qaddumi said "Islamic pressure" could involve severing diplomatic relations with the United States and an economic boycott.

Karachi radio reported that during the Islamic foreign ministers conference in At-Ta'if the standing committee on Afghanistan reviewed its report which will be submitted to the Islamic summit. Conference Secretary Chatti revealed that Afghan resistance leaders will address the summit, AFP reported, adding that the mojahedin leaders have already been granted visas to attend.

Afghanistan

Foreign Ministry Statement--A Foreign Ministry statement carried by Kabul radio said the Islamic summit conference should concentrate on Israeli "aggression and occupation of Arab lands" and the "maneuvers" of Israel, Egypt and the United States in the Middle East. The conference should demand an immediate withdrawal of American naval forces in the Persian Gulf, the statement went on, and the liquidation of U.S. bases in the region.

The radio deprecated attempts by "reactionary and ruling circles" to discuss Afghanistan at the summit and claimed that although Afghanistan presents no threat to peace and security it has become the object of "aggressive actions" from outside. No Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan can be considered, the statement added, without a political settlement involving a complete end to "aggression" against the DRA and "guarantees" of the nonresumption of "subversive actions from abroad."

Amnesty for Refugees--A government statement on the "so-called refugees" announced a "general amnesty" for refugees remaining abroad. In a statement reported by Kabul radio the government claimed to guarantee the safety, freedoms and equal rights of those who profited by the amnesty that has already been "consistently implemented." Although "tens of thousands of people" who left the country as a result of the "savagery" of Hafizollah Amin's government in 1979 have now returned, the radio said, some still remain abroad as a result of "false propaganda" by the revolution's "enemies." "Imperialist and reactionary circles," the statement went on, want to slow down the return of the refugees in order to recruit and train them as "mercenary terrorists."

Israel

Following a Sunday Cabinet session, Jerusalem radio reported that Prime Minister Menahem Begin revealed the Cabinet has decided to ask the Knesset for a dissolution and new elections on 7 July. Acting Likud chairman Hayim Kaufman had earlier told the radio that although a majority of Likud members of the Knesset wanted elections in November, they had empowered the government to decide on an election date.

The radio later reported that Alignment Knesset faction chairman Moshe Shahal said he wants the elections to be held in June, prior to the school summer recess. If the Alignment and Likud cannot agree on the date, he said, the Alignment will submit its own bill for the Knesset's dissolution.

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MINISTERS ARRIVE IN AT-TA'IF FOR CONFERENCE

GF171135 Riyadh Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 17 Jan 81

[Excerpts] Delegations of Muslim countries participating in the Islamic foreign minister's conference began to arrive in At-Ta'if today for the conference which begins tomorrow to prepare for the third Islamic summit.

Tunisian Foreign Minister Hassan Belkhodja arrived at the head of the Tunisian delegation at 1030 today. Ugandan Foreign Minister (Ali Omar Sanyotinya) arrived at the head of the Ugandan delegation. Mauritanian Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Minister Mohamed El Mokhtar Ould Zamel, and the delegation accompanying him, arrived today.

[Turkish Federated State of] Cyprus Foreign Minister Kenan Atakol arrived in At-Ta'if at the head of his country's delegation for the meetings of the Islamic foreign ministers conference.

The Cameroon delegation led by Cameroon Ambassador to Saudi Arabia and Algeria (Hamdo Alim) and head of the Arab affairs department at the Foreign Ministry (Ahmad Baghli), and the Gambian delegation led by Gambian Ambassador to Saudi Arabia Ali Baji, arrived in At-Ta'if today.

The delegations were received on arrival at the airport by Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, Islamic Conference Organization Secretary General Habib Chatti, Foreign Ministry Under Secretary 'Abd al-'Aziz ath-Thunayan, Saudi ambassadors to these countries, the ambassadors of these countries to Saudi Arabia, and senior civilian and military officials.

PDRY Foreign Minister Salim Salih Muhammad expressed the hope that the forthcoming Islamic summit will yield results that will enhance the Muslim Arab peoples' struggle to regain Jerusalem and wrest it from the claws of Zionism and to liberate the other occupied Arab territories. In a statement to SPA, Salim Salih Muhammad expressed the hope that the conference's results will lead to the retrieval of the Palestinian Arab people's inalienable national rights to self-determination and an independent national state under the PLO's leadership and to the mobilization of all resources in the face of the Zionist enemy.

Pakistani Foreign Minister Agha Shahi said that the convening of the third Islamic summit in Mecca is proof of the Muslim nation's desire to unite its ranks in the service of Islam and Muslims and in order to confront the challenges facing the Arab and Muslim worlds. In a statement to SPA, he said that the Arab and Muslim leaders will, through their meeting, renew the call for jihad declared by Crown Prince and Deputy Prime Minister Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz for the liberation of Jerusalem. The Pakistani foreign minister called on the Muslim countries to increase their efforts to put an end to the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan and to enable the Afghan people to have their say on the government they want.

The leader of the Ugandan delegation to the Islamic foreign ministers conference expressed the hope that the third Islamic summit will play a significant role in assisting Uganda to develop its economy. In a statement to SPA, he said that Uganda is waiting for the conference to resume economic aid which was suspended following the Ugandan war. He stressed the importance of the Islamic summit and said that Uganda attaches special significance to the summit. He said that Ugandan Prime Minister Otema Alimadi will head the Ugandan delegation to the summit.

Turkish federated state of Cyprus Foreign Minister Kenan Atakol said he was pleased to take part in the Islamic foreign ministers conference which begins in At-Ta'if tomorrow, Saturday. In a statement to SPA, he said that his country's delegation will concentrate during the conference on the economic difficulties facing Cypriot Turks and that he will not raise the Cyprus question in view of the current talks between Turkish and Greek Cypriots.

Djibouti Interior Minister Idriss Farah arrived in Jidda today at the head of his country's delegation to the Islamic foreign ministers conference. In a statement to SPA, the Djibouti interior minister said that the convening of the Islamic summit in Saudi Arabia and near the holy mosque gives it great significance and special impetus to achieve the Islamic nation's demands. He expressed the confidence that the summit's resolutions will be equal to the events facing the Islamic nation. He said that the convening of the conference in Saudi Arabia which is known for its leading role in healing rifts and uniting the ranks will yield positive results, God willing.

Iraq's Hammadi

LD162132 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2015 GMT 16 Jan 81

[Text] At-Ta'if, 16 Jan (SPA)--Iraqi Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi arrived here tonight to lead his country's delegation to the conference of Islamic foreign ministers which begins its work tomorrow. He was welcomed by His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, foreign minister; Habib Chatti, secretary general of the Islamic Conference Organization; Shaykh 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Mansuri, foreign under secretary for political affairs; and the Iraqi ambassador to the kingdom.

DELEGATIONS URGE IRANIAN PARTICIPATION IN SUMMIT

Palestinians, Syrians

JN181907 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1806 GMT 18 Jan 81

[Text] At-Ta'if, 18 Jan (GNA)--Informed sources here have told the GNA mission that the Syrian and the Palestinian delegations are holding contacts with Iran to persuade it to attend the Islamic summit conference.

The same sources pointed out that these contacts might succeed within the coming 2 days.

Iran had previously announced it would not attend the Islamic conference and gave unconvincing reasons.

Bahrain's Foreign Minister

JN181548 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1455 GMT 18 Jan 81

[Text] At-Ta'if, 18 Jan (GNA)--Bahraini Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah has stressed the importance of the issues on the agenda of the Islamic foreign ministers conference, which began here yesterday.

In a statement to the GNA team in At-Ta'if, he said that the general tendency at the conference is toward solving standing differences between Islamic states.

He said that the conference will not discuss issues specifically concerning the Gulf area, but that general issues concerning both the Gulf states and the Islamic countries will be put forward for discussion.

He expressed hope that Iran would attend the Islamic summit so that the differences between it and Iraq may be solved.

The Bahraini minister praised the Kuwaiti suggestion to establish an Islamic justice court. He said that the establishment of such Islamic institutions serves the Muslim cause.

LIBYA, IRAN WILL NOT ATTEND ISLAMIC SUMMIT

GF171252 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 17 Jan 81

[Text] At-Ta'if--Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, in a statement to the press at At-Ta'if airport, said Saudi Arabia has received an official apology from Libya indicating that it will not take part in the Islamic summit conference. The Saudi foreign minister said Iran will not take part in the summit conference.

Habib Chatti, secretary general of the Islamic Conference Organization, said Iran will not take part in the conference. He said the Islamic Conference Organization has received an official notification from the Iranian Government to this effect.

PROPOSALS MADE ON CONFERENCE AGENDA, ISSUES

Palestinian Issue

NC181842 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1640 GMT 18 Jan 81

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The PLO looks with great interest on the Islamic summit conference due to be held on 25 January in At-Ta'if, Saudi Arabia. The PLO is keen on having this conference represent a big political rally in which the Islamic world will affirm a number of political facts--all of which will focus on the Palestinian issue, the struggle of the Palestinian people and the Islamic solidarity with this struggle.

The fact is that, notwithstanding the geographical distances between the Islamic world countries and Palestine, the Islamic world stresses that the Islamic nation's central issue is the Palestine problem and that the liberation of Palestine and its holy Jerusalem is an obligation of every Muslim man and woman.

The second fact is that the Islamic world has been inundated with local disputes by the United States of America. The United States has also surrounded the Islamic countries with fleets and military bases. Therefore, the Islamic countries--more than ever before--are required to take note of the peril of U.S. policies in the region; this goes for the region's territories, people and independent national entities. Hence, the Islamic world must adopt firmer stances and measures against the U.S. policies--not only to protect the central issue, that is the Palestinian issue, but also to protect the Islamic countries themselves as well as their peoples' national rights.

The third fact is that the forthcoming Islamic conference is the third such conference to be convened by the Islamic countries in order to study the situation in the Islamic world and its principal problems. If the previous conferences had resulted in scanty tangible achievements as far as pragmatic politics are concerned, the adaptation of the Islamic conference as a framework to include various countries of the world, can--itself--be interpreted as an important achievement which must be nurtured and developed. Therefore, one of the tasks facing the forthcoming At-Ta'if conference is to draw up the possible means that will ensure the stimulation of the Islamic bloc's role on a programatically researched basis which will make use of the enormous economic capabilities at the disposal of the Islamic countries. By soundly utilizing these capabilities, the Islamic countries can achieve important political results aimed at supporting their principal problems at whose crux stands the Palestinian problem and its holy Jerusalem.

the PLO which, through its actual participation in the At-Ta'if summit, will represent the Palestinian cause and its holy Jerusalem considering that it is an indisputably central problem, is looking forward to this conference's success. The standards for measuring such a success are no longer in limbo, the first standard being a practical obligation to liberate Palestine by means of taking part with its revolution's direct struggle against its Zionist and U.S. enemies and by means of utilizing the Islamic world's enormous capabilities as a means for pressuring the United States into yielding to the rightful will of Islam. Thus, the Islamic Conference will have taken a major step toward [achieving] the legal aims for which it has been convened in the first place, that is the Palestinian problem and its holy Jerusalem. This is indisputably the crux of the Islamic world's issues.

More on Palestine Issue

NC161615 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1245 GMT 16 Jan 81

[Text] A delegation of the Palestine Liberation Organization [PLO] will leave Damascus this evening to participate in the Islamic foreign ministers conference which will begin its work tomorrow, Saturday, in the Saudi Kingdom. This delegation will be led by Brother Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi], head of the PLO Political Department.

In an exclusive department statement to the WAFA [Palestinian] news agency on the importance of this conference and on the results which this conference is expected to produce, Brother Abu al-Lutf said: This year, the Islamic foreign ministers conference will be convened in the Saudi Kingdom; the summit conference will also have the same venue. We hold the view that this conference is important, particularly since it is being convened under critical circumstances and within the context of the changes which are expected to occur in the area.

Therefore, it is imperative for the conferees to give priority precedence to the Palestine problem and to the cause of Jerusalem. It is incumbent on the conferees to discuss these topics extensively so that we will be able to pass the requisite resolutions, particularly on the Palestinian issue. It is also imperative for the conferees to take supportive stances and to take measures more developed than the past resolutions. In other words, it is incumbent on the conferees to implement the resolutions which they will pass.

Brother Abu al-Lutf added: At this conference it is incumbent on the Islamic states to take stances which will be sterner than the ones which they had adopted previously. Furthermore, it is imperative for the conferees to take measures at all levels against the forces which support Israel. It is also inevitable to condemn U.S. policy, which backs Israel. As I have said, this is an important matter. It is imperative to take feasible measures against the United States.

Because the conference is being convened at this particular juncture, we believe that necessity dictates that all the Muslims should be in solidarity with the Palestinian people in order to crush the Camp David conspiracy and to eliminate the Israeli occupation of Palestinian and Arab territories. It is imperative for the conferees to extend aid and financial support for the Palestinian people so they can recover their homeland and set up their independent state. Furthermore, it is inevitable to put political and economic pressure on the states which support Israel and the United States. The reason is that these two states are stubbornly hindering the establishment of peace in the Middle East area.

Regarding his recent visit to Sweden, Brother Abu al-Lutf said: Sweden is now taking a friendly attitude toward us. The reason is that Sweden supports the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people to determine their own fate and to establish their independent state. Sweden has publicly stated this position on several occasions. Furthermore, the Swedish foreign minister announced this position during the 35th session of the [UN] General Assembly. This visit was made to the Social Democratic Labor Party and to its president and leadership represented by Olaf Palme. It was also made to the party leadership and to the Swedish popular organizations, such as workers [unions] and other establishments. A visit was also made to the Swedish foreign minister personally.

About whether Sweden intends to develop its positive attitude toward the Palestinian cause, Brother Abu al-Lutf said: There can be no doubt that there is a de facto political recognition of the PLO. We have an information office [in Sweden]. We would like to see Sweden adopt a developed stand on the Palestinian cause and extend diplomatic recognition to this cause--and even to the PLO. I believe that the near future will bring about many positive developments, particularly if the social democrats accede to power in the country in the wake of next year's elections.

USSR's Afghan Intervention

NC181139 Paris AFP in English 1126 GMT 18 Jan 81

[Excerpts] At-Ta'if, Saudi Arabia, 18 Jan (AFP)--Islamic Conference Organization Secretary General Habib Chatti today described the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan as a disaster for the Islamic world and blamed the Soviet Union for the lack of solution to the crisis.

Muslims in Afghanistan were facing "every description of oppression and tyranny with heroic determination," Mr Chatti said in his report to the conference's 12th ministerial meeting here which is preparing next week's third Islamic summit.

He asked the conference to put forward proposals to end the deadlock over Afghanistan, which he said remained unchanged after 13 months because of the "Soviet Union's inflexibility and the attitude of the Kabul regime, which is subservient to the Soviet Union."

But the first priority for the conference was the cause of Palestine and Jerusalem, and it was not enough to approve a strategy to neutralise "the dangerous Zionist escalation," Mr Chatti said.

He repeated the call in his opening speech to the meeting yesterday for Islamic states to end regional disputes and unite to face the real problems confronting them.

Mr Chatti warned that the world situation was rampant with "tensions and conflicts," and said that inter-Islamic conflicts only helped to "inflate the ambitions of our Zionist enemy and its allies."

He appealed to the conference to "find a remedy" to the absence of Iran, whose four-month-old conflict with Iraq had brought ruin and destruction to the two peoples to the "benefit only of the enemies of our nation."

Turning to the rest of the world, the secretary general said there were Muslim communities "undergoing the bitterness of oppression and injustice." He singled out Philippine Muslims who were "still fighting and resisting for the preservation of their identity."

The ministerial meeting today named Palestine Liberation Organisation spokesman 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar and Niger Foreign Minister Daouda Diallo as vice-chairman of the conference.

Meanwhile a Chadian delegation was expected to arrive to join the conference, leaving only Libya, Iran and the two suspended members Egypt and Afghanistan unrepresented.

The meeting is also being attended by observers from Nigeria, Cyprus and the United Nations.

Settlement of Gulf War

LD171138 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1105 GMT 17 Jan 81

[Text] At-Ta'if, 17 Jan (SPA)--Habib Chatti, general secretary of the Islamic Conference Organization, has announced that the General Secretariat of the organization will be submitting proposals to the third Islamic summit conference to help in settling the Iraqi-Iranian conflict. However, it was too soon to divulge what these proposals and ideas were.

In a statement today he said that the General Secretariat of the organization condemns any military intervention in Iran, and it had strongly condemned America's decision to boycott Iran economically. Chatti added that the Islamic summit meeting would also be discussing the question of the three islands controlled by Iran.

Islamic Unity

LD180938 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0720 GMT 18 Jan 81

[Text] Riyadh, 18 Jan (SPA)--Deputy Prime Minister and Crown Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz has stated that the clear task before the third Islamic summit conference to be held in Mecca is to draw up a joint Islamic strategy of struggle for the retrieval and safeguarding of the sanctities and the usurped legitimate rights of the Islamic nation.

In a comprehensive interview with AR-RIYADH newspaper published here today, Prince Fahd said this is our concept of the jihad which we will submit to the summit conference. He defined the concept of jihad under this strategy by saying: We are for a comprehensive Islamic jihad with money, men, economy and even arms.

Prince Fahd called on the Islamic nation to make full preparations for jihad and to rise to confront its enemies from information, scientific, cultural and economic bases and not from a vacuum or diverse bases, so that the nation will not fail.

The prince stressed the importance of unity and solidarity as the springboard for facing up to the obstacles and challenges which are being planted in the way of all.

The prince stressed the need for an awakening in all parts of the Islamic world so that the Islamic nation will move forward with force to tackle the obstacles in its way.

Afghan Committee

LD181304 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1050 GMT 18 Jan 81

[Text] At-Ta'if, 18 Jan (SPA)--Shaykh 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Mansuri, foreign under secretary, said that the Afghan committee set up by the conference of the Islamic foreign ministers which was held in Islamabad would prepare a comprehensive draft resolution on the Afghan problem, to be submitted to the foreign ministers today for inclusion in the agenda as one of the main issues.

Shaykh al-Mansuri told SPA that the draft resolution would be prepared in light to two reports discussed by the committee at its meeting today, which was chaired by His Royal Highness Amir Sa'ud al-Faysal. He said that the draft resolution would be debated by the ministers before being submitted to the third Islamic summit.

The committee met this morning in the presence of representatives from member states which include Tunisia, Pakistan, Guinea, and Habib Chatti secretary general of the Islamic Conference Organization. The committee heard two reports, one by the Pakistani foreign minister, Agha Shahi, on the latest developments in Afghanistan and Pakistan's attitude to them, and the second by Habib Chatti on his efforts to solve the problem and the organization's efforts since the meeting in Switzerland last June and the United Nations General Assembly resolution of last November on the Afghan problem.

Afghan Resistance Leaders

NC182052 Paris AFP in English 2039 GMT 18 Jan 81

[Text] At-Ta'if, Saudi Arabia, 18 Jan (AFP)--Afghan resistance leaders will address the third Islamic summit here this week and have already been granted visas by [words indistinct] Islamic Conference [Organization] Secretary [General] Habib Chatti said here.

At the 11th foreign ministers' conference in Islamabad in May, Iran granted delegate status to several resistance leaders exiled in Pakistan, enabling them to attend the debates and lodge pleas for aid with Islamic governments.

It was not clear here late today whether another nation--possibly Pakistan which is sheltering a million and a half Afghan refugees--could offer the same status in its delegation.

Afghanistan was suspended from the Islamic conference last spring after the Soviet Union intervened in the country and the Babrak Karmal government took power.

Islamic Strategic Force

LD190955 Riyadh AR-RIYAD in Arabic 15 Jan 81 pp 1, 15

[Muhammad al-'Uhali, Nasir al-Qar'awi, Tal'at Wafa and Hasan al-Zahiri report: "Summit To Discuss Establishment of Islamic Strategic Force"]

[Excerpt] Mecca, Riyadh, Jidda--AR-RIYAD has learned that the third Islamic summit will discuss the establishment of an Islamic strategic force to strengthen the Islamic jihad. The General Secretariat of the Islamic Conference Organization has received responses from 33 Islamic countries agreeing to attend the Islamic summit, and responses from the remaining countries are expected within hours. This was stated to AR-RIYAD by Islamic Conference Secretary General Habib Chatti following prolonged discussions yesterday with Foreign Minister Amir Sa'ud al-Faysal on the arrangements for the summit meeting and the conference of Islamic foreign ministers in At-Ta'if on Saturday.

FOREIGN MINISTERS' CONFERENCE OPENS ON 17 JAN

LD171536 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1510 GMT 17 Jan 81

[Text] At-Ta'if, 17 Jan (SPA)--The 12th conference of the Muslim foreign ministers opened at 1710 at the conference hall at At-Ta'if today.

The conference opened with a Koran recitation. Then the Pakistani foreign minister, Agha Shahi, spoke in his capacity as chairman of the current session of the Islamic ministers' council. He reviewed the achievements of the current session and the Islamic nation's aspirations for further achievements in the new session on all political, economic and social levels.

When Agha Shahi ended his speech the Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal assumed the chairmanship of the conference being invited to do so by Agha Shahi.

Prince Sa'ud delivered a speech in which he spoke of the agenda of the conference which abounds with numerous important issues. He said the agenda reflected the great task which lies on the shoulders of the participants. Every topic, he said, represents an interest for our Islamic nation and reflects its aspirations for its own good and that of the whole human race.

At our meeting today, he added, we do not aim at making any decisions or declaring any stands. Ours is a working session concerned with the preparation for the 3rd Islamic summit conference, he added, and hence our task is limited to submitting our findings to the leaders so that they may have their final say.

The issues before the conference, he said, were issues affecting our Islamic nation, headed by the questions of Palestine, the occupied Arab territories, Jerusalem, the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan, the Iraqi-Iranian conflict and inter-Islamic economic cooperation in addition to cooperation in the cultural and scientific fields.

First, Second Sessions

GF181859 Riyadh Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 18 Jan 81

[Text] The second working session of the Islamic foreign ministers conference began at the great conference hall in At-Ta'if at 1945 today under the chairmanship of Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal.

The Islamic foreign ministers conference began its first working session at the great conference hall in At-Ta'if under the chairmanship of Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, who welcomed the conferees. Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal announced the election of Pakistani Foreign Minister Agha Shahi as conference reporter in view of his chairmanship of the past session.

The Indonesian and Senegalese delegates spoke and nominated PLO delegation chief Faruq Qaddumi and Niger Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Minister Daouda Diallo deputy chairmen. The conference unanimously agreed to the two nominations. The Pakistani, PLO and Niger delegates thanked the conference chairman and conferees for their confidence. They congratulated Prince Faysal for all the delegates' absolute confidence in his running of the conference.

Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal then announced the end of the public session and asked journalists to leave the hall so a closed session could be held.

The conference ended its first session at 1530 today. It was devoted to the discussion of the draft agenda of the 3rd Islamic summit conference.

Al-Faysal Speech

LD171658 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1540 GMT 17 Jan 81

[Speech by Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal at the opening of the Islamic foreign ministers' conference in At-Ta'if on 17 January 1981]

[Excerpts] At-Ta'if, 17 Jan (SPA)--All of us would have liked that no member country of our organization would fail to attend our conference and participate in its work. Undoubtedly, the presence of a state like the Iranian Islamic Republic and other member states which have declined to attend, would have given the conference an opportunity to hear their views on the various Islamic issues on our agenda, thus insuring for the conference a fuller participation and more comprehensive unanimity.

We have great responsibilities before our meeting today. The agenda of our conference abounds with important issues which reflect the great task laid on our shoulders. Every topic on the agenda represents a clear interest for our nation and reflects its aspirations for all that brings good to it and to mankind as a whole.

The political items on the agenda affect our nation's presence in the core. The Muslim Arab people in Palestine and the occupied Arab territories have been suppressed and tortured and their lands occupied, and they have been made homeless. Furthermore, they are now facing a premeditated plan which is intended to obliterate their identity, destroy their creeds and obliterate their Islamic culture. The Judaization of Arab Jerusalem is only one manifestation of this aggression which has gone beyond the land and person to aggress also on creed and culture.

In another part of our Islamic homeland, brothers, in dear Afghanistan, a country that is dear to the hearts of us all, our kinsmen are suffering under the yoke of the Soviet military occupation which has made the innocent homeless and killed children, women and the aged. They are our brethren in faith and we owe them the duty of support. We will exert all we can to bolster the struggle of the Muslim Afghan people until the Soviet occupation forces withdraw and the Afghan people are left to determine their own fate by themselves.

Before us we have also the Iraqi-Iranian conflict. It is a particularly important item because of the negative repercussions it has on the unity of the Islamic nation, and because the continuation of this conflict will lead to division and squandering of the capabilities of two Muslim countries for whom the Islamic nation is in greatest need in the present stage of its history.

Undoubtedly, you all will discuss and study this conflict and give it the important place it deserves. We must hold serious discussions on this conflict so that we may reach a peaceful, objective solution which will spare the blood of the Muslims and restore normal relations between these two Muslim countries within the framework of the desired Islamic brotherhood.

Brothers, in our meeting today, we do not aim at taking decisions or declaring stands. Ours is a working meeting concerned with preparation for the third Islamic conference. Hence, our task is limited to submitting our findings to the leaders so that they may have their say and take the necessary decisions. Our adoption of this line in our work and meetings will facilitate [words indistinct], the completion of our mission in the required manner with all ease.

Agha Shahi Address

BK181138 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 18 Jan 81

[Excerpt] The Islamic foreign ministers' conference, which began in At-Ta'if yesterday to prepare for the Islamic summit, resumes this morning.

Addressing the inaugural session of the conference, the outgoing chairman, Pakistan Foreign Minister Agha Shahi, stressed that the forthcoming Islamic summit should pay full attention to the most important issues and discuss them on a priority basis; such as the independence of Jerusalem and all occupied Arab territories, and granting the Palestinians their national rights including the establishment of an independent state under the leadership of the sole representative body of the Palestinians--the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Referring to the efforts made to dissolve the remaining traces of racial discrimination and colonialism in southern Africa, he said that the Islamic summit should review the situation following the deadlock in talks on the Namibia issue.

He said that the draft agenda of the summit includes the important issue of formulating an economic strategy for the Islamic countries during the third development decade. He said the Islamic countries should depend to the maximum on their own resources, their extensive participation in the reorganization of international economic relations and decisionmaking on economic affairs is very important. He said the Islamic summit will provide an opportunity to the leaders of the Islamic countries to review the success of the Islamic community and to create harmony between their thoughts and actions in order to face the serious challenges of the present age.

Referring to the Afghanistan crisis, Agha Shahi said that the Islamic Conference [Organization] and the United Nations are making wholehearted efforts for a political settlement of the issue. He said recent events have fostered the hope that the difficulties regarding the modalities of solving the Afghan issue through negotiations will be overcome.

On the Iran-Iraq war he said that we will make new efforts as soon as possible for a just and honorable settlement of the issue in the spirit of Islamic solidarity. He said that these efforts and other events in the region are deeply linked with the security of the Gulf region. The Gulf area has become a center of increasing big power rivalry. He said that we hold to the firm stand that the responsibility of the security and stability of the Gulf region should be carried out by the countries of the region themselves.

Al-Faysal Press Conference

GF182002 Riyadh Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 18 Jan 81

[Press conference held by Prince Sa'ud Al-Faysal, Saudi foreign minister and chairman of the 12th Islamic foreign ministers conference, in the conference hall in At-Ta'if on 18 January--recorded]

[Excerpts] [Al-Faysal] The opening session of the conference began and was concluded yesterday. The working session began this morning when the agenda was discussed. In this morning's session we completed our discussion of the draft agenda. Discussion was completed on all but one item on the agenda, and the item is the new topics that delegates want to introduce into the agenda. We will discuss this matter in this evening's session, thus completing the disucssion of the agenda proposed for the summit. Upon completing this every item on the agenda will be discussed, and the relevant documents will be reviewed.

The important thing that was unanimously agreed upon in this morning's session is the recommendation to call the current session of the summit conference the Palestine and Jerusalem session, in view of their special significance to the Muslim countries in particular and their effect on the international situation.

This is what I have to say regarding the meetings--this morning's meeting and yesterday's meeting. If you have any questions please ask them.

[Question] How many item are on the agenda [words indistinct]?

[Answer] There are 20 items so far, but it is possible that 2 or 3 items will be added during today's meeting.

[Question indistinct]

[Answer] The conference hopes that all member countries of the Islamic Conference Organization will attend. This is the prevailing sentiment at the conference. Naturally, within the framework of discussion--particularly with regard to the Iraq-Iran conflict--I expect there will be an attempt to get Iran to attend the summit conference to discuss this matter, because it concerns the entire Muslim nation.

[Question] [Words indistinct] a document submitted on human rights. Is it true that it was met with opposition by some countries?

[Answer] I do not think it met with opposition. It was not submitted for discussion. As I said, the discussion revolved on the agenda. In this regard, a measure was taken to refer it for study within the agenda's framework. It did not meet with any opposition.

[Question from the AL-MADINAH newspaper] Are there efforts to achieve a reconciliation among Arab states, such as Iraq and Syria, or Syria and Jordan?

[Answer] This conference includes Arab and non-Arab countries. As you know, efforts are being made within the framework of the Arab League. I believe these efforts are blessed by the Islamic Conference. However, there are no special efforts by this conference on this matter.

[Question] Your Highness, [word indistinct] from the Kuwaiti AS-SIYASAH. Can you say if anything or any measures have been taken regarding Iraq and Iran?

[Answer] Sir, as I have said, the discussions so far have centered on the agenda. We did not discuss the topics on the agenda. This topic is on the agenda, and I expect it will be discussed in detail.

[Question] Your Highness, Iranian President Bani-Sadr has said Iran may change its stand and attend the Islamic summit conference if President Saddam Husayn does not attend. What is [words indistinct]?

[Answer] I have no comment on this other than that the conference hopes Iran will attend this conference in view of Iran's historic role in Islamic issues and Islamic civilization. All conferees hope Iran will contribute its views in all of the Islamic conference's proceedings, and particularly with regard to the Iraq-Iran conflict.

[Question] Has there been a practical measure to bring Libya to the conference?

[Answer] I did not refer to any practical measures on any matter. What I said is that the conference wants all member countries to attend. I singled out Iran because there is an important and serious matter--the Iraq-Iran conflict. Consequently, I singled out Iran because this issue is important to Muslim countries.

[Question] Will Chad attend the conference?

[Answer] The secretary general will answer.

[Habib Chatti] Yes, Chad will attend the conference. Some of the [words indistinct] are here.

[Question] Muhammad Ba'albakki, from the newspaper SADA LUBNAN, Beirut. When the conference discusses the item on the Middle East crisis on the agenda, will it consider the Lebanese crisis, or the situation in Lebanon, a part of the Middle East situation, or is there still an opportunity to consider the question of Lebanon as an independent country?

[Answer] There was a special request from Lebanon in this regard. The Lebanese delegation's request was circulated in the conference. It asks the conference to discuss this issue within the framework of the discussion on the Middle East issue.

[Question] SAWT, London. In the absence of Iran, how can a practical formula be reached to put an end to the fighting between Iran and Iraq?

[Answer] We hope Iran will attend the summit conference for this very reason.

[Question] [Words indistinct] The Afghan issue and the East-West conflict over spheres of influence. Are there hopes at this juncture to keep the Islamic world neutral and far from the East-West conflict?

[Answer] The question is general and involves the political line of the Islamic grouping on this matter. In this we can refer to the charter of the Islamic Conference and statements issued by summit conferences and subsequent conferences of the Islamic Conference Organization. Nonalignment is the basic line of the Islamic countries' political grouping. Therefore, it will be one of the pillars of the deliberations, particularly with regard to the document on the Mecca statement. It will be primarily based on this character and line.

[Question] Are there any military measures the conference will (?take) regarding Jerusalem?

[Answer] Military measures? No military measures have been proposed. We have the report of the Jerusalem Committee. Some of its recommendations may be construed as having a military aspect, but there is no special item on military affairs.

[Question] Within the framework of Saudi Arabia's efforts to united Muslims and within the framework of the great Islamic meeting in Mecca, Turkey has decided to freeze its relations with Israel and to give Israeli diplomats in Turkey the opportunity to leave the country. What is your highness' view?

[Answer] I believe this measure demonstrates that Turkey is proceeding in the right direction on this matter. Israel's measures on Jerusalem and the Palestinian question and its denial of the Palestinian people's rights to what is legitimately theirs is unequivocal proof that Israel does not want peace or stability. In view of Turkey's great Islamic status and great service to Islamic causes throughout its glorious history and the contribution of Turkish brothers in this regard, we hope it will take more effective and comprehensive measures.

Excuse me, a meeting will be held now. A prepared statement will be distributed by the secretariat and will contain information about today's and yesterday's sessions. Thank you.

PLO INSISTS ON 'PALESTINIAN OPTION' IN TALKS

LD190939 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 17-23 Jan 81 p 10

[Text] Well-informed sources have revealed to AL-MAJALLAH that PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has emphasized to the Egyptian delegation which he received in Beirut recently "that the PLO will not abandon its independence whatever the pressures and the circumstances."

The sources pointed out that the Egyptian delegation, led by 'Abd ar-Rahman ash-Sharqawi, has visited Beirut and participated in the celebrations marking the anniversary of the Palestinian revolution with the full knowledge of President Anwar as-Sadat and the approval of the Egyptian Government. Ash-Sharqawi is a personal friend of the Egyptian president. This is the first time that an Egyptian delegation has participated in such celebrations since As-Sadat's visit to Jerusalem in 1977.

The sources said that Ash-Sharqawi stressed to 'Arafat the need to find a comprehensive solution to the conflict--a solution that will "ensure the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and the establishment of their own independent state under the leadership of the PLO." 'Arafat explained that the PLO will not abandon its role to any Arab state and that the PLO only recognizes the Palestinian option.

Informed Arab diplomatic sources link this visit with President as-Sadat's rejection of the Jordanian option and the principal role which Reagan and some Europeans want Jordan to play in resolving the Palestinian issue.

Meanwhile, the Egyptian delegation told 'Arafat that there is an obvious Egyptian popular rejection of the Egyptian-Israeli normalization process.

BAHRAIN

PAKISTANI PRESIDENT ARRIVES ON 2-DAY VISIT 17 JAN

GF171116 Manama Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 17 Jan 81

[Excerpts] His highness the amir, Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, was foremost among those who received Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq, president of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, and the delegation accompanying him, on their arrival in Bahrain from Qatar at 1100 today on a 2-day official visit to Bahrain as part of his excellency's tour of Arab and Muslim countries.

Also receiving the Pakistani president were Prime Minister Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah, ministers, the chief of the amiri court, the chief of staff of the defense forces, Pakistani Ambassador to Bahrain Hakim Mohamed Ahson, Arab and foreign diplomats in Bahrain, senior civilian and military officials, Pakistani Embassy staff and members of the Pakistani community in Bahrain. The distinguished guest was accorded an official welcome on his arrival at Bahrain international airport. The two leaders then went to the airport's lounge and exchanged friendly remarks.

The amir and the Pakistani president then left in an official procession through streets decorated with the two countries' flags to Al-Qudaybiyah palace where the president, and the delegation accompanying him, are staying during their visit to Bahrain. An escort mission led by Finance and National Economy Minister Ibrahim 'Abd al-Karim has been formed.

The Pakistani president is accompanied by a delegation that includes Culture, Sports and Tourism Minister Shahid Hamid, Chief of the Naval Staff Rear Adm Karamat Rahman Niazi, the Pakistani president's adviser for naval affairs (Mostafa Tokal), Foreign Ministry Under Secretary (Riyad Barazi) and Production and Industries Ministry Under Secretary (Iqbal Said). The Pakistani president is also accompanied by senior Pakistani civilian and military officials and an information delegation.

17 Jan Talks

JN171516 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1330 GMT 17 Jan 81

[Text] Manama, 17 Jan (GNA)--Official Bahraini-Pakistani talks began here today under Bahraini Amir His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah and Pakistani President Ziaul Haq.

The session was attended by His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah, prime minister; Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah, minister of foreign affairs; Jawad Salim al-'Urayyid, minister of state for cabinet affairs; and Ibrahim 'Abd al-Karim, minister of finance and national economy. On the Pakistani side, it was attended by Shahid Hamid, culture, sports and tourism minister; Rear Adm Karamat Rahman Niazi, naval chief of staff; and (Riyad Barazi), Foreign Ministry under secretary.

The GULF NEWS AGENCY has learned that the two sides discussed bilateral relations and means of promoting them, reviewed topics on the agenda of the Islamic summit conference and exchanged views on them to reach constructive resolutions. They also discussed current developments in the Gulf and current Arab issues.

Dinner Party

GF171611 Manama Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 17 Jan 81

[Text] His highness the amir, Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, hosted a dinner at Ar-Rifa' palace at 1800 today in honor of Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq, president of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, and the delegation accompanying him.

Attending the banquet were Prime Minister Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah, senior members of the gracious family, ministers, the chief of the amiri court, the chief of staff of the defense force, the Pakistani ambassador, ministry under secretaries, heads of diplomatic missions in Bahrain, senior government officials, notables and guests.

More Talks

JN171946 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1905 GMT 17 Jan 81

[Text] Manama, 17 Jan (GNA)--The second round of official talks was held here this evening between the Bahraini side under His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah and the Pakistani side under President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq.

Attending the talks on the Bahraini side were Prime Minister His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah and Ibrahim 'Abd al-Karim, finance and national economy minister and head of the honor escort.

Attending on the Pakistani side were the Foreign Ministry under secretary and the Pakistani ambassador to Bahrain.

This round of talks was held to complete the talks that were held this morning.

Remarks on Soviets

JN180800 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0545 GMT 18 Jan 81

[Text] Manama, 18 Jan (GNA)--Pakistani President Mohammad Ziaul Haq has expressed his satisfaction over the results of his visit to Bahrain and his talks with the Bahraini amir, His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah. The talks dealt with strong bilateral relations and current international problems, he said.

The president explained that his talks also dealt with matters to be discussed by the forthcoming Islamic summit in Mecca. Viewpoints on issues discussed, he added, were identical.

In a press conference he held in Manama last night, President Ziaul Haq expressed the hope that the forthcoming summit would produce results different from those of previous summits; firm and fruitful results which would solve all problems facing the Islamic nation. He also expressed the hope that the U.S. hostages issue will be solved soon and said that this issue has complicated all matters on every levels.

In reply to a question on the possibility of Soviet military action against Pakistan because of its support for the Afghan resistance, President Haq said: We are aware of the seriousness of the Soviet presence near Pakistani borders. He said the Soviet forces have trespassed [takhattat] over Pakistani borders several times. We realize, he added, that Pakistan will be the next Soviet target after Afghanistan, and will exert all efforts to preserve the security of the area. He said Pakistan will not be alone but will be supported by other countries.

18 Jan Departure

JN180836 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0530 GMT 18 Jan 81

[Text] Manama, 18 Jan (GNA)--The Pakistani President Mohammad Ziaul Haq left Manama this morning for Muscat following a 2-day official visit to Bahrain as part of a tour that includes Kuwait, Turkey, Jordan and Qatar.

During the visit the Pakistani president held talks with the Bahraini amir, His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, on the agenda of the Islamic summit, the current developments in the Gulf area, the current Arab situation and bilateral relations and means to consolidate them.

The Pakistani president was seen off by the Bahraini amir, His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah; the prime minister, His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah; Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah, the heir apparent and commander in chief of the Bahraini defense forces; and other senior Bahraini officials.

OMAN

PAKISTANI PRESIDENT ARRIVES IN MUSCAT 18 JAN

JN181123 Doha QNA in Arabic 1040 GMT 18 Jan 81

[Text] Muscat, 18 Jan (QNA)--Pakistani President Mohammad Ziaul Haq arrived in Muscat this morning from Bahrain on a 1-day official visit to Oman at the conclusion of a tour that included some of the Gulf states and Turkey. The president was received at the airport by His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id.

The Pakistani president and Sultan Qabus will hold talks on the agenda of the Islamic summit convening in Mecca and bilateral relations and means to consolidate and develop them. The president is also scheduled to open a Pakistani school in Oman.

18 Jan Departure

JN181908 Doha QNA in Arabic 1824 GMT 18 Jan 81

[Text] Muscat, 18 Jan (QNA)--Pakistani President Ziaul Haq left Muscat today after a short visit to the Sultanate of Oman. The visit is part of his tour of a number of the region's states.

Official talks were held today between Omani Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id and Pakistani President Ziaul Haq. They discussed bilateral relations and issues of mutual interest and exchanged views on the issues to be discussed at the Islamic summit conference.

The Pakistani president arrived in Muscat earlier today from Manama in the framework of a tour which includes Kuwait, Turkey, Jordan, Qatar, Bahrain and Oman.

QATAR

ZIAUL HAQ ARRIVES; HOLDS TALKS WITH AMIR

JN161949 Doha QNA in ARabic 1855 GMT 16 Jan 81

[Text] Doha, 16 Jan (QNA)--The second round of official talks was held here this evening between His Highness Qatari Amir Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani and Pakistani President Mohammad Ziaul Haq, now visiting Doha.

Attending the talks on the Qatari side were Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani, heir apparent and minister of defense; Khalid ibn 'Abdallah al-'Atiyah, minister of public works, and 'Isa Ghanim al-Kuwari, minister of information.

Attending on the Pakistani side were some members of the delegation accompanying the Pakistani president.

[Words indistinct] and issues of common interest, particularly the current developments in the area and a number of the issues to be raised at the coming Islamic conference. Talks also focused on bilateral relations in various spheres and the means to bolster these relations in the interest of the two countries and peoples. President Ziaul Haq arrived in Doha yesterday on a 2-day visit to Qatar as part of his current tour of several states in the region.

Press Conference

JN171312 Doha QNA in Arabic 1120 GMT 17 Jan 81

[Text] Doha, 17 Jan (QNA)--Pakistani President Gen Ziaul Haq has declared that his current tour of the countries in the area is for the purpose of unifying the stands of the Islamic states on the issues to be raised at the forthcoming Islamic summit in Mecca. These issues, he said, are the Iraqi-Iranian war, the situation in Afghanistan, the Palestine question, the Jerusalem issue and the drawing up of a strategy to pool Islamic economic resources.

Asked about the resolutions which the Islamic summit might adopt on the Iraqi-Iranian war, President Ziaul Haq, who was speaking at a press conference in Doha last night, said that he can confirm from his talks with Muslim leaders that all of them want an end to this war.

President Ziaul Haq expressed the hope that the Mecca summit would adopt a positive stand on the war and put an end to the fighting.

Regarding his efforts to end the Iraqi-Iranian war, the Pakistani president said: I am still continuing my efforts and have achieved tangible progress. I am exerting more efforts and am still optimistic. We hope that the Islamic summit will provide a wider scope for success to end this dispute.

Asked about the role that could be played by the EEC to solve the Middle East problem, the Pakistani president said that the European community has a big role to play in this regard. He said that anyone who thinks that the Middle East problem could be solved without due consideration for the legitimate rights of the Palestinians and their actual participation in the solution is grossly mistaken.

The Pakistani president spoke about the proposal made by Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev calling for talks with Iran and Pakistan to prevent forces infiltrating into Afghan territory. He said: This proposal is based on a weak argument, because the Soviets themselves said that they entered Afghanistan to prevent any infiltration from Pakistan and Iran. Therefore, we tell them that this situation is not new. It has been in existence since 27 December 1979. How was Pakistan interfering at that time?

The president added: The Soviets explained then that they entered Afghanistan at the request of the then President Hafizollah Amin. Therefore, we would like to stress that what they are saying is contrary to the truth. What the Soviets are guarantees from Pakistan and Iran.

The Pakistani president continued: I have already said this and I am repeating it now: I cannot guarantee something which I cannot guarantee. The border between Pakistan and Afghanistan is 2,400 km long. It is rough terrain but there are points along the border that serve as passageways.

The Pakistani president asserted that the Afghan rebels operate inside Afghan territory. Were it established that they are operating from Pakistani territory, I would readily accept the blame, he added. He said that Afghan rebels operate from areas very close to the Soviet border, which is hundreds of miles from Pakistani territory.

Also commenting on the situation in Afghanistan the Pakistani president said that Soviet occupation of Afghanistan was planned a long time ago and was intentional. He said that he does not see any justification for 90,000 Soviet soldiers to occupy the territory of a nation of 5 million people.

The president said: Afghanistan is a poor country which needs foreign aid. It does not contain any kind of resources or oil. Therefore, there is no justification for Soviet forces to enter that country. But the truth is, the Soviet Union has exploited the vacuum in Afghanistan created by the chaos in Iran. Furthermore, Pakistan is really a small state, India is immersed in its problems and U.S. influence in the area is shakey. All these factors have paved the way for Soviet interference in Afghanistan.

The Pakistani president said that the Soviets are now in a position to pounce on Iran in the shortest possible time and no one can stand in their way except the Iranian people. The president added: I am not trying to underrate the capabilities of the region, but the Soviets are indeed in a better position. They can cross from Afghanistan to Baluchistan and control the Indian Ocean. Thus the backdoor of the Gulf would be protected by the Soviet Union rather than Pakistan.

Asked about the possibility of persuading the Soviets to withdraw from Afghanistan, the Pakistani president said that if this were possible, the Soviets would have withdrawn several months ago.

President Ziaul Haq said that he had told the Soviets that if they believed that Pakistan was interfering in Afghanistan, they should close the border from their side, since they have 90,000 soldiers in Afghanistan. However, they will not be able to do so.

Asked whether there has been a positive response to Pakistan's call for solving some issues by negotiations under the auspices of the United Nations, as recently proposed by Pakistani Foreign Minister Agha Shahi, Ziaul Haq said: We received a poisitive response in this regard, particularly from those who voted against the UN General Assembly resolution. He pointed out that it is not difficult now to oppose the Soviet Union in Afghanistan, as was the case during last year's Islamic foreign ministers meeting in Pakistan.

The Pakistani president said: Through this transformation, perhaps the Soviet Union thinks that by alleviating the pressure it is facing in Afghanistan, it will have reduced its troubles in Southeast Asia and Europe. There is another possibility, although I do not have any information to confirm it; namely, the Soviet Union's foot in Afghanistan has begun to pain it and it has begun to reap the consequences of its intervention there.

On whether any progress has been made regarding the Pakistani foreign minister's call for direct negotiations under the auspices of the United Nations to solve the Afghan problem, President Ziaul Haq said that to date no progress has been made in this regard. He asserted that this call does not mean recognition of the current regime in Afghanistan, adding that Pakistan will negotiate only with a representative from the Afghan Democratic Republic Party.

On military cooperation between Saudi Arabia and Pakistan, he said: There is an agreement for exchange and training of personnel with Saudi Arabia. There are Saudis being trained in Pakistan and there are Pakistani advisors and experts in Saudi Arabia. Moreover, we have technicians contributing to development in Saudi Arabia.

On Pakistan's development of nuclear technology and whether there are outside pressures to restrict this, he said: Pakistan is developing nuclear technology for peaceful purposes. We will continue the development process until we possess this technology. He added: I cannot see why a nation of 80 million should be prevented from possessing nuclear technology while having all the requisite potentials.

On cooperation between Qatar and Pakistan and on whether it was possible to sign cooperation agreements in various fields during this visit, the Pakistani president said: Joint cooperation actually exists between Qatar and Pakistan. There is an effective Pakistani community contributing to development in Qatar. He expressed confidence that his current visit to Qatar will boost the current understanding existing between the two countries. He stressed that such visits are important for promoting bilateral cooperation.

On Pakistan's relations with India at this stage, particularly following Soviet leader Brezhnev's visit to New Delhi, President Ziaul Haq said: We are determined to improve our relations with India and remove the misunderstanding with our big neighbor. I hope that our relations with India will return to normal in the near future.

On Pakistan's relations with the United States in light of events in Afghanistan, he said: We have good relations with the United States. As a superpower it has a role to play in Southeast Asia and on the Afghan issue. However, I am against military cooperation with the United States but support cooperation for development through aid from developed countries.

17 Jan Departure

JN171340 Doha QNA Arabic 1150 GMT 17 Jan 81

[Text] Doha, 17 Jan (QNA)--Pakistani President Mohammad Ziaul Haq left Doha this morning for Bahrain at the conclusion of a 2-day visit to Qatar as part of his current tour of several states in the area.

The president was seen off at Doha international airport by His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hammad Al Thani and several senior Qatari officials.

His Excellency Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf al-Thani, minister of state for foreign affairs, issued a statement to the press on the Pakistani president's visit to Doha in which he said that His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani and President Ziaul Haq held official talks attended by several senior officials from both sides. The talks, he added, dealt with bilateral relations, the situation in the Gulf area and international issues of mutual interest. They also reviewed major topics on the agenda of the forthcoming Islamic summit.

The minister also said that concerning bilateral relations, the two sides have asserted their support for these relations and means to consolidate them in the interests of the two Muslim peoples. The two sides expressed satisfaction at the identity of views on all subjects discussed. The statement said that the results of the visit were positive.

The minister said that President Ziaul Haq has invited the Qatari Amir His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Tani to visit Pakistan and that the invitation was accepted.

UAE

MINISTER INTERVIEWED ON STATUS OF GULF ISLANDS

GF172050 Riyadh Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 17 Jan 81

[Interview with UAE Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Rashid 'Abdallah in At-Ta'if, Saudi Arabia, on 17 January; broadcast in progress in a series of interviews with heads of delegations to the Islamic foreign ministers conference--recorded]

[Text] [Rashid 'Abdallah speaking in progress] The UAE is working hard through friendly and neighborly means and through prevailing wisdom and by submitting legal documents and evidence to prove its rights and calls for the return of these islands to their legal owner. We recorded this stand at the time in the Arab League. We informed our brother Arab states. We have also recorded this stand every year at the United Nations. We are seeking to remind our Muslim brothers in the Islamic Republic of Iran now that we still have rights to these islands and we are still calling for the return of the islands. We hope that wisdom, reason and Islamic spirit will prevail among the brothers in the Islamic Republic of Iran so they will restore these rights to their owners.

[Question] How have international forums responded to what you have submitted to them?

[Answer] The fact is that the islands are Arab. We consider them to be an Arab right. All our Arab brothers support us in this, as well as many Muslim countries and international bodies.

With regard to the right to these islands, our rights are clear and we have all the proof and evidence to prove this right. As I have said, we do not want to use methods or pressures that our brothers in the Islamic Republic of Iran may construe as out of place. We want to regain our rights through peaceful and brotherly means and in an Islamic spirit. At the present stage we adhere to working through these Islamic principles, and we hope that the brothers in the Islamic Republic of Iran will have the same spirit and Islamic principles.

[Question] You have submitted your case to the United Nations. The Arab League and the Islamic Conference [Organization]. Have you informed any other organizations of your case?

[Answer] Our latest action was at the recent UN General Assembly session and at the recent Security Council meetings. We submitted a number of memoranda on this subject.

[Question] The television thanks UAE Minister of State Rashid 'Abdallah.

[Answer] Thank you, thank you.

YAR

LOCAL GOVERNMENT MINISTER BURIED 16 JAN

JN161315 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 16 Jan 81

[Excerpts] The martyr Lt Col Muhammad Khamis, local government minister, and his two aides, who were killed yesterday by treasonous and treacherous hands, were buried this morning after an official and popular procession in the martyrs cemetery.

Two of the criminals were killed while two are under arrest, to be tried and punished for their heinous, sinful crime.

AS-SADAT' S COMMENTS ON PLO, U.S. ROLE REPORTED

NC182317 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2220 GMT 18 Jan 81

[Text] Cairo, 18 Jan (MENA)--President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat has said that the PLO has an important role to play in the peace talks and that the PLO must be a principal party in these negotiations. AL-AHRAM says in Monday's edition that President as-Sadat made this statement in reply to a question by James Scheuer, New York City representative in the American House of Representatives, concerning a published report about a meeting in Beirut between an Egyptian [not further identified] and PLO Leader Yasir 'Arafat.

Replying to a question on whether the meeting had taken place with the president's knowledge and approval and whether that meant that President as-Sadat was encouraging the PLO participation in the autonomy talks among Egypt, Israel and the United States, President as-Sadat said: Yes, with my knowledge; this is an operation which must come to pass because the PLO has a principal role to play and it must be a principal party to the peace talks. Naturally, according to the clear Egyptian position, this should take place after the autonomy agreement is signed.

In his statements made before his departure for Athens and published by AL-AHRAM, Scheuer said that President as-Sadat explained a number of important points during his meeting in Aswan with the U.S. congressional committee. stressing the following:

1. President as-Sadat felt that the United States should play a leading role in this part of the world, and that the way the issues of the shah of Iran and the U.S. hostages were handled made many U.S. friends in this part of the world wonder whether the United States was a reliable friend. He felt, according to Scheuer, that the Americans were not firm in their handling of the hostages issue. The president pointed out that the United States lost 55,000 people in traffic accidents annually, that the hostages represented less than 1 percent of this figure, and that the United States should deliver a message to the world that such acts of terrorism were unacceptable and against the civilized conduct that has governed international relations for 2,000 years.

Scheuer added that President as-Sadat believed that the U.S. leadership had been shaken as a result of these incidents and also as a result of the U.S. slow pace in dealing with the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.

2. President as-Sadat believed that a strong U.S. presence in the Indian Ocean was a necessity. He supported an increased U.S. military presence at the Diego Garcia base, hoped for a big U.S. investment for the reconstruction and development of the Ras Banas base, and hoped that the Americans would use the facilities there in return for all this [investment] so that they would be able to defend the region against the Soviet threat in case of emergency.

3. President as-Sadat hoped that the Israeli elections would be held after the summer so that all sides would have the opportunity to adopt the necessary stands to give the peace process a boost. The president believed that international geopolitical problems--the Iraqi-Iranian war, the Libyan adventure in Chad and the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan--would subside and elements of peace and stability would return to the area, thus providing a better atmosphere for giving a further push forward to the Middle East negotiations process.

AS-SADAT COMMENTS ON EUROPE VISIT, OIL, CHAD

NC161232 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1152 GMT 16 Jan 81

[Text] Aswan, 16 Jan (MENA)--President Anwar as-Sadat has stated that contacts between Egypt and Sudan on the Chadian situation have beengoing on for a long time and that, if invited, Egypt will attend the conference called for by Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri to discuss the Chadian situation.

In a press statement he made this afternoon after performing Friday prayers in Aswan, President as-Sadat added that he would attend the European parliament meetings in Strasbourg in the second half of February.

Asked to comment on the recently announced oil discovery in Egypt, President as-Sadat said: God willing, I shall talk about this issue during my meeting with the leadership in Aswan.

Asked his opinion on the reports that Arab contacts were underway to persuade Egypt to attend the Islamic conference in Mecca, the president saidj I am only aware of what has been published ['Ali qadar ma nushira faqat].

Asked if he would go to Strasbourg to attend the European Parliament meetings, he said: God willing, in the second half of February.

Asked if there were contacts with Sudan regarding the Chadian, situation, the president said: Yes, contacts have been going on for a long time. Concerning Egypt's position on the conference President Numayri has called for to discuss the Chadian situation, the president said: If we get an invitation, I shall go. Asked Egypt's view on France's recent stand on the Chadian situation, he said: I will speak about all this.

'ALI COMMENTS ON AS-SADAT MEETING, CURRENT ISSUES

As-Sadat Meeting

NC171622 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1522 GMT 17 Jan 81

[Text] Aswan, 17 Jan (MENA)--President Anwar as-Sadat met at noon today with Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali. The meeting, which began at 1200, lasted about two hours. In statements made to correspondents after the meeting, Kamal Hasan 'Ali said he expects a summit conference to be held between President Anwar as-Sadat and U.S. President Ronald Reagan in the spring, even though Egypt has not yet received an invitation from the U.S. administration.

'Ali said that President as-Sadat's visit to Strasbourg will be limited to the president's attendance at the European Parliament's meeting and the delivery of his speech there.

Asked what he discussed with the president during their meeting today, Kamal Hasan 'Ali said that he reviewed with President as-Sadat the international situation, the situation in the Middle East, the Egyptian diplomatic activity in the coming period regarding the Middle East and the Palestinian issue and the contacts pertaining to this important subject. He said that they also reviewed the situation in Chad in the light of the Libyan intervention. 'Ali said: We received the president's instructions, guidance and ideas regarding future moves, and this was the essential subject during the meeting.

Asked about the president's visit to the United States, the deputy prime minister said that in view of the new U.S. administration's interest it is expected that a meeting will take place in the spring between Presidents as-Sadat and Reagan. He added: The date for this meeting has not been set, and we have not yet received an invatation. However, I think that the new U.S. administration will have to hold bilateral meetings in order to acquaint itself with the views of the states in the area on the method of solving the problem within the Camp David framework. I also think that in the light of the changes which are currently taking place in Israel it is expected, in my opinion, that the tripartite summit conference among Egypt, the United States and Israel would not be held before next fall.

Asked whether Arab contacts are taking place to persuade Egypt to attend the Islamic summit conference, the deputy prime minister and foreign minister said: We did not discuss the Arab contacts at all during the meeting, and I have no knowledge about this subject.

Asked about the reports that he would be visiting the United States, Kamal Hasan 'Ali said: What has been reported about such a visit, that it would take place in February, are rumors, because no date has yet been set and my visit may take place after the president's visit.

Asked about the Egyptian moves in Africa, Asia and Latin America, the deputy prime minister and foreign minister said: We are moving and will move in the future. As you know, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali is currently in Latin America and Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Dr Samir Ahmad is in Africa. Dr Samir Ahmad attended the Lome conference and expressed Egypt's views on the Chad problem to the conference.

He added: I am expected to visit some West European states in March. I shall visit Denmark from 25-27 March, and contacts are underway to arrange visits to Spain and Belgium. He said that he will not be visiting France because Dr Butrus Ghali visited it last month.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali added that [Minister of State for Foreign Affairs] Dr Butrus Ghali will attend the nonalignment conference, which will be convened in India on 4 February, as well as the African foreign ministers conference in Addis Ababa next month.

To a question about whether the president had given him guidelines on the subject of Chad, he said: No guidelines were given regarding the question of Chad. The reason is, as we know, Egypt has already made moves with the African states in Lome. In addition, there was also the usual coordination with Sudan in light of the agreement on joint defense in force between the two countries. Kamal Hasan 'Ali added that we stand prepared to intervene to defend Sudan under the joint defense agreement, if need be.

In answering a question about whether there are contacts with France, the deputy prime minister and foreign minister answered that contacts have been held with France very recently. The subject of Chad was discussed, in addition to the Libyan intervention and its serious consequences for the neighboring states.

About whether it is possible for an African force to intervene in Chad, Kamal Hasan 'Ali said that the subject was raised and is contained in the resolutions passed by the Lome conference resolutions. These resolutions, he added, call for an African force to oversee the withdrawal of the Libyan forces and to monitor elections to be held within Chad for the sake of national unity.

In concluding his statements, the deputy prime minister and foreign minister said that the president's trip to Strasbourg will be confined to attending and addressing the meetings of the European Parliament.

Israeli Elections, Hostages

NC182030 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 18 Jan 81

[Text] Commenting on the Israeli Government's decision to advance the date of the elections, Deputy Prime Minsiter and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali said: This is an internal matter concerning Israel, and the Arab Republic of Egypt has no comment on these internal conditions. He added that when it signs an agreement, Egypt signs it with a state and not a party. Regardless of who is the official or the party, Egypt will deal with him to implement the Camp David agreement in letter and spirit.

'Ali went on: This is the principle through which Egypt is dealing with both the Israeli and U.S. Governments.

Concerning the reports on agreement between the United States and Iran on the issue of the hostages, 'Ali said: This is considered a step along the path of a peaceful solution to this problem--a step that would improve the international relations and put an end to the tension in the area. From a diplomatic point of view, this step has put an end to the violation of the diplomatic practice. It is also considered a humanitarian step which would end the suffering of hostages.

Chad, French Position

NC162216 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2130 GMT 16 Jan 81

[Text] Cairo, 16 Jan (MENA)--Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Mr Kamal Hasan 'Ali announced that Egypt has had contacts with the French Government with regard to the situation in Chad and France's attitude toward Libya. The foreign minister added that Egypt regards France's decisive measures as affirming that supreme strategic interests go side by side with economic interests. He added that Egypt has supported the Lome conference resolutions and that Libya's rejection of these resolutions is the beginning of an escalation that works against the African countries' interests and against the region.

In statements made to AL-AHRAM in tomorrow's edition, Mr 'Ali said that the African countries' support of the Lome resolutions serve to affirm that these countries do not support the rule of Goukouni Oueddei because his rule does not represent the entire spectrum of Chad's national attitudes. He added that the unity [between Chad and Libya] has been established under the threat of arms. Mr 'Ali said he had received a report from the Egyptian Deputy Foreign Minister Dr Samir Ahmad who is currently in Lome and who has followed the situation in precise detail. He participated in the consultations held during the Lome conference.

MUBARAK DENIES CONTACTS ON ARAB RECONCILIATION

NC170753 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1650 GMT 17 Jan 81

[Text] Cairo, 17 Jan (MENA)--Vice President Husni Mubarak has stated that there is no truth in the report that a Kuwaiti paper published the day before yesterday on the existence of contacts to reconcile Egypt with the Arab rejectionist states. In a statement published by AKHBAR AL-YAWM today, Husni Mubarak says that this report is baseless. The vice president denies that he had met with Arab personalities in London to discuss how to commission a Gulf ruler to contact President Anwar as-Sadat with a view to ending the disagreement between Egypt and Arab states that severed relations with Cairo.

Husni Mubarak reaffirms Egypt's clear position, saying that it is not responsible for the deterioration in relations with the other Arab capitals and that it has not and will not abandon its stand--derived from the support of all the Egyptian people--on retrieving the Arab right and ending the Middle East conflict. The vice president adds: It is stupid to say after this that the Arabs have laid a precondition--that Egypt abandon the Palestinian autonomy negotiations with Israel--before bringing about a reconciliation, concerning which the Arabs claim that contacts are in progress.

In conclusion, Mubarak says: Egypt works in broad daylight and therefore neither accepts nor permits any secret contacts. If such contacts take place, then we will announce them so that the Egyptian people and the entire Arab nation may learn about them.

AS-SADAT REPORTEDLY MEETS CHAD'S HABRE IN ASWAN

NC170738 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0710 GMT 17 Jan 81

[Text] Cairo, 17 Jan (MENA)--The Sunday edition of OCTOBER magazine reports that President Anwar as-Sadat has received Hissein Habre, the leader of the popular opposition in Chad. The meeting took place in Aswan and lasted 2 hours, after which Habre left for Cairo and from there went abroad.

AS-SIYASI SAYS LIBYRA CONTEMPLATING NEW 'ADVENTURE'

NC180822 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0733 GMT 18 Jan 81

[Text] Cairo, 18 Jan (MENA)--Citing Libyans who have recently escaped from Libya, the newspaper AS-SIYASI says today that Al-Qadhdhafi, with Soviet planning and implementation, is contemplating an adventure on the Libyan-Egyptian border since he is now the number one agent in the region, buying massive quantities of Soviet weapons and bringing in large numbers of Soviet military personnel and Cuban mercenaries. The paper adds that diplomatic circles in Egypt have given similar information regarding Al-Qadhdhafi's next crime and have confirmed that what Al-Qadhdhafi did in Chad was only one step to be followed by other steps in Sudan and probably Egypt.

MUSLIM BROTHERHOOD URGES JIHAD AGAINST SYRIA

NC170621 Paris AFP in English 0603 GMT 17 Jan 81

[Text] Cairo, 17 Jan (AFP)--The Moslem Brotherhood of Egypt appealed here last night for a holy war "jihad" against the regime of Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad. At an "Islamic People's Congress" in Al-Azhar mosque here, leaders of the Brotherhood accused the regime of "massacering Sunni Moslems in Syria." Syria has ordered death sentences for known members of the extremist Brotherhood.

OCTOBER EDITORIAL COMMENTS ON SOVIET ESPIONAGE

NC171002 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0858 GMT 17 Jan 81

[Text] Cairo, 17 Jan (MENA)--OCTOBER magazine chief editor Anis Mansur asserts that since their expulsion from Egypt, the Russians have been trying to either circumvent Egypt and surround it with agents or infiltrate it from within. In his weekly article entitled "The War of Cunning Between Egypt And the Soviet Union, Four Spies and One Political Refugee," which will be published tomorrow, Sunday, Mansur says: The Soviets are surrounding Egypt in Libya, Ethiopia, Yemen, Syria and Afghanistan. Each time Egypt makes a serious political decision that frightens them, the Russians try to get to the bottom of it. Therefore, the Soviet Embassy in Cairo and its 60 officials, officers and 440 trade officials and engineers have been turned into intelligence men to pick up and buy information from citizens.

Mansur adds: It is not necessary for the Soviet Embassy to collect the information alone; it charges the other communist embassies to do so. Each embassy might have a specific role and be responsible for one area of information, but all the information pours into the Soviet Embassy, which has diplomatic and nondiplomatic intelligence officers. The embassies and their offices are nothing but facades behind which the Russians conduct their activities to learn what is happening in Egypt.

Mansur goes on: For political considerations, the Soviet intelligence man was arrested and expelled from Egypt without any investigation or trial. This is what happened to four members of the Soviet Embassy a week ago. Egypt only wants to emphasize to the Soviets that it is following their activities and that they should limit them. Egypt does not want the gap between both countries to become bigger, it being enough that Egypt has brought down [asqatat] an espionage network and dealt with the mistakes before they became irreparable.

SADDAM HUSAYN TO ATTEND ISLAMIC SUMMIT CONFERENCE

JN182025 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2020 GMT 18 Jan 81

[Text] Baghdad, 17 Jan (INA)--An official source in the presidential office has stated that President Saddam Husayn will lead Iraq's delegation to the meetings of the Islamic summit conference to be held in Saudi Arabia next week.

The source added that an official high-level delegation will accompany President Saddam Husayn.

HAMMADI LEAVES FOR AT-TA'IF CONFERENCE 16 JAN

JN161938 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1910 GMT 16 Jan 81

[Text] Baghdad, 16 Jan (INA)--Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi left Baghdad this evening leading Iraq's delegation to the meetings of the Islamic states' foreign minister conference, which will begin its work in At-Ta'if tomorrow evening.

Dr Hammadi has asserted that Iraq will participate in an effective and active manner in the Islamic conference. He added that Iraq believes that the Islamic people's interest dictates that the Islamic organization be developed and strengthened in the fields of international policy and in serving Muslims and Islam. This could be achieved by guaranteeing the moral and material factors and willpower to defend the Islamic countries' political issues on the international level based on the principles of independence, freedom and justice.

TARIQ 'AZIZ RETURNS TO BAGHDAD FROM AMMAN

JN181826 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 18 Jan 81

[Excerpt] President Saddam Husayn's personal envoy Tariq 'Aziz, Revolution Command Council [RCC] member and deputy prime minister, returned to Baghdad this evening after a short visit to Jordan.

IRAQIS ENTER DEHLORAN, CAPTURE HOVEYZEH 16 JAN

JN162012 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2006 GMT 16 Jan 81

[Text] Baghdad, 16 Jan (INA)--It was announced here tonight that the Iraqi armed forces have raided the township of Dehloran, destroying the enemy bases and raising the Iraqi flag on the district officer's building.

A new communique issued by the Iraqi armed forces general command said that the valiant Iraqi forces have imposed their full control over the town of Hoveyzeh after dealing strong blows to the enemy's assembly points and pockets.

JORDAN: IRAQ MAY SET UP STATE FOR IRAN ARABS

JN181330 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 18 Jan 81

[Text] Iraqi Culture and Information Minister Latif Jasim has said that the Iraqi forces have now reached the real borders with Iran and that they will not withdraw from these borders.

Jasim told Kuwaiti newspaper editors that Iraq is prepared to help the Arabistani Arabs to set up an independent state for themselves if they so wish.

PAPER REPORTS ON IRANIAN AREAS UNDER IRAQI CONTROL

JN190911 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0825 GMT 19 Jan 81

[Text] Baghdad, 19 Jan (INA)--Press reports here say today that the Iraqi forces are in full control of the outskirts of Khafajiyaz [Susangerd]. Citing a dispatch from its team at the frontlines, the newspaper ATH-THAWRAH reports that our armed forces, using various weapons, are pounding enemy positions in Khafajiyah and the enemy's supply routes and concentrations. The paper points out that the Persian forces are trying to regroup after having been torn to shreds in the fierce battles that raged in the Khafajiyah area the first week of this month. Citing a military source, the paper says that the remnants of the Persian pockets in Khafajiyah are completely demoralized as a result of the heavy losses they sustained in the destruction of the abortive Persian attempt to launch the alleged counteroffensive.

In another dispatch, ATH-THAWRAH points out that the Iraqi forces' concentrated shelling of enemy positions in Dezful was aimed at the enemy's concentrations and camps, scoring direct hits. Columns of smoke were sighted from a distance billowing from enemy fortifications and positions, a result of the Iraqi artillery's accurate and painful shelling.

ATH-THAWRAH also publishes on two pages pictures of Hoveyzeh, which has been controlled. The pictures show the heroic Iraqi soldiers patrolling the streets of the town and the piles of arms which were seized. ATH-THAWRAH reports: Our triumphant armed forces advanced toward Hoveyzeh from various sides at 1730 on Thursday and immediately gained control over it without meeting any significant resistance. They found in the town a large number of Iranian armored vehicles and tanks as well as ammunition dumps, some of which were stored at religious, medical and educational sites. The Iranian ammunition seized by the Iraqi forces in Hoveyzeh includes crates of internationally banned Zionist and U.S. bombs.

In a commentary, ATH-THAWRAH emphasizes the control of the Iraqi forces over Hoveyzeh, saying: The purging of Hoveyzeh is an important step toward tightening full control over the Karkheh River and a new confirmation of our valiant forces' ability to pound all the Persian positions deep in Iranian territory.

REPORT ON HUSAYN INTERVIEW WITH KUWAITI PAPERS

JN171552 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1330 GMT 17 Jan 81

[Text] Kuwait, 17 Jan (INA)--President Saddam Husayn has stressed that there will be no change in Iraq's current policy of war with Iran unless Iraq's inalienable rights are attained. He said that he is proud of the results of the war, a war which has never been desired by Iraq.

Speaking to the Kuwaiti papers, which published his press interview today, President Saddam Husayn said that Iraq considers the restoration of the three islands now occupied by Iran as a prerequisite for stopping the war. "It is not enough for Iran to recognize Iraq's rights. It should return the three islands." He said that the Iraqi Army crushed the recent premeditated Iranian attack that was intended to create a 20-kilometer-long gap in the main 1,000-kilometer-long front. The Iraqi Army crushed this Iranian attack by launching a counterattack on the 2d day of the Iranian onslaught. The Iraqi president explained that the enemy lost some 388 tanks, between serviceable and destroyed tanks, during their 5-day onslaught.

President Saddam Husayn stressed that the Iraqi Army's positions on the front are now much stronger than its positions during the first 3 weeks of the war. He also emphasized that the Iraqi Army's ability to hurt the enemy is much stronger now than it was during the first 3 weeks of the war. In addition, the enemy's losses are now several times greater than its losses in the first 3 weeks.

The Iraqi president explained that it has become clear since the first week of the war that the Iranian Army has been defeated in the war and that the Iraqi army has entered Iran's territory. The Iraqi president pointed out that the Iranians acted badly when they started to attack Iraq as of 4 September 1980. He added that the Iranians have miscalculated the Iraqis' reaction.

His excellency the president said that the Iranians are facing the Iraqis with Soviet-made weapons obtained from Syria and Libya. This is one of the elements of proof that Syria and Libya stand with Iran in this war. He added that Iraq is ready to cooperate with any Arab, even he who may stab us in the back, when the Arab nation's interest is concerned; yet Iraq does not believe in any cooperation whose aim is to exchange issues and lie to each other.

President Saddam Husayn described the Iranian-Syrian cooperation as one of mutual interest. He said that if the Iranians were Muslims, they would have supported the oppressed Muslims in Syria and that if the Syrian rulers were patriots, they would have supported Iraq. If the Syrian rulers, he added, were leftists, they would have stood against the Iranians because anyone with Khomeyni's ideas about women, nationalities, communities and the people cannot be a leftist.

President Saddam Husayn asserted that Iraq has not entered the war to cause the collapse of the Iranian regime on the domestic front, for this has never been one of the war's objectives. He said that Iraq's objective is to safeguard its sovereignty and to cooperate to safeguard the Arabs' sovereignty and security when necessary.

The president added that history will reveal that there are agents among those who determine the political trends of Iranian policy because any regime whose aim is to serve Iran's interests and to build an independent and nonaligned experience would have, first of all, desired to establish natural relations with Ira, then with Iraq as part of the Arab Gulf and then with Iraq as part of the Arab nation. The president said that after the Iranian rulers came to power, they antagonized the Arab nation and Iraq primarily.

President Saddam Husayn said that before and during the war, Iran has obtained spare parts for its American arms from special markets and that he supposes that it is possible for the United States to directly supply Iran with arms and spare parts.

He emphasized that Iraq will not be terrorized or intimidated by this. He said that the arms possessed by Iran are not small in number, but are very many.

President Saddam Husayn emphasized that the insistence of Iranian circles on prolonging the war without justification, despite their knowledge of the price they are paying, is for the purpose of arranging affairs in Iran and the gulf on behalf of other non-Iranian quarters, one of which is the United States.

He added that the war, which took place in accordance with Iran's decision--regardless of whether the Iranian rulers knew of it or whether it was the result of encouragement from other quarters--was aimed at rearranging the Iranian situation in accordance with the designs of certain countries, including the United States. He said that the war was also aimed at arranging circumstances in the gulf by certain countries, led by the United States.

President Saddam Husayn affirmed that Iraq supports any inter-Arab coordination, whether it be bilateral coordination or more than that, which aims at serving the Arab nation. He said that any Arab coordination must not be in a form which groups the Arabs in axes, groupings and blocs, a form which caused Iraq not to be one of the steadfastness countries. He said that everyone must avoid fragmenting the Arab nation with axes and blocs which weaken its strength in the interest of the foreigner.

He pointed out that there is no rift between Iraq and Algiers, that there are no differences between the two countries on any issue and that the same applies to the PLO.

The president said that Iraq will fight any foreign country which attempts to attack the Arab Gulf countries and that this pledge is part of the principles in which Iraq believes.

Concerning the Lebanese issue, President Saddam Husayn renewed his call for the Lebanese to solve it themselves and for noninterference by the West in the affairs of Lebanon, thus precluding a solution. However, the solution is for the Arabs to create an atmosphere that will enable the Lebanese to choose the solution which will keep Lebanon Arab and unified, irrespective of the administrative and constitutional forms the country chooses.

Concerning Iraqi-Jordanian relations, President Saddam Husayn said that they are purely fraternal, having the basic aim of serving the Arab nation. Iraqi-Jordanian relations began to gradually develop in this direction in 1974, doing so until they reached their present level. The previous coldness was caused by the complications imposed by the circumstances in 1970 between the Palestinian resistance and Jordan. At the end of his press interview, Saddam Husayn said that Iraq will participate in the Islamic summit conference.

ARMED FORCES COMMAND ISSUES BATTLE COMMUNIQUES

Communique No 217

JN161634 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1610 GMT 16 Jan 81

[Communique No 217 issued by the Armed Forces General Command 16 January 1981]

[Text] Baghdad, 16 Jan (INA)--In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

Our valiant armed forces continued their activities in the operational sectors. Following are the results of our armed forces' activities yesterday and today:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. Four were killed in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab region.
B. Five were killed in the Gilan-e Gharb area.
C. One stockpile of hardware was destroyed in the Sumar area.
D. Four were killed and one gun and three stockpiles of hardware were destroyed in the Dezful area. Six were killed and one ground radar unit was destroyed in the Shush area.
E. Our units inflicted the following losses on the enemy in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] area.
1. Two were killed.
2. One tank, one armored personnel carrier, two heavy machineguns and a quantity of hardware were seized. All are serviceable.
3. One tank and three vehicles were destroyed.
F. Our units attacked enemy concentrations and positions in the Abadan area, inflicting the following losses:
1. Nine were killed.
2. Eleven vehicles, two guns, one stockpile of hardware, and one excavator were destroyed.
3. One helicopter was shot down.

This makes total known enemy losses: 30 killed, 2 tanks, 1 armored personnel carrier, 14 vehicles, 3 guns of various calibers, 2 heavy machineguns, a quantity of hardware, 1 excavator, 1 ground radar unit and 1 helicopter,

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: 12 martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: One personnel carrier, six vehicles and two guns were damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 16 January 1981.

Communique No 218

JN162046 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2025 GMT 16 Jan 81

[Communique No 218 issued by the Armed Forces General Command 16 January 1981]

[Text] Baghdad, 16 Jan (INA)--In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

Our victorious forces continue to score victories over the ignorant and arrogant Persian enemy, who tried to cover his abominable defeats by launching a counteroffensive. The persian enemy carried out the couteroffensive but only reaped disappointment and losses. The outcome of this offensive was the devastating destruction that was inflicted on his troops, to which our communiques have been referring. We are determined, with the help of God Almighty, to mop up all the pockets that are being used by the enemy as assembly points to strike at our formations. On 14 January, our armed forces raided the enemy bases in Dehloran. After destroying the enemy's bases and the escape of his troops to the adjacent mountains, our victorious forces entered the town and raised the Iraqi flag on the district officer's building and returned to base.

Also, yesterday, our forces advanced toward another enemy base, the town of Hoveyzeh, and dealt strong blows to the enemy's assembly points and pockets. The enemy took to his heels in panic. Thus, this town is under the full control of our forces. Our forces raised the Iraqi flag over the town. This confirms that our army, which has been fighting for almost 5 months, is capable of extending its steel arm to any base deep inside the front, including the enemy's towns close to the front edge of our units. Perhaps the ignorants will learn a new lesson from these victories. It is God who grants success.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 16 January 1981

Communique No 219

JN171716 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1630 GMT 17 Jan 81

[Communique No 219 issued by the Armed Forces General Command 17 January 1981]

[Text] Baghdad, 17 Jan (INA)--In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

Our valiant armed forces continued their activities along the lines of confrontation with the rash racist Persian enemy, dissipating the ignorant Magian Persians' dreams of undermining our victories. Following are the results of our forces' activities yesterday evening and today:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. Two were killed in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab region.

B. An enemy troop concentration was sighted opposite our units' positions in the in the Gilan-e Gharb region. All sorts of weapons' fire was opened, forcing the enemy to retreat. The enemy left behind 57 dead, 2 tanks, 3 vehicles and 1 rocket launcher. Two enemy helicopters were shot down while trying to raid our forces' positions in the same region.

C. Our units opened all sorts of fire on an enemy concentration in the Sumar region, forcing the enemy to flee after sustaining 20 dead and 1 vehicle destroyed.

D. Our forward units in the Sayf Sa'd region engaged enemy personnel and vehicles and 2 observation posts.

E. Five were killed in the Mehran region.

F. Our forces opened fire on an enemy troop concentration opposite our positions in the Dezful region and killed 13; the rest took to their heels.

G. Three were killed and one vehicle and two guns were destroyed in the Shush region.

H. Our units opened fire on the enemy remnants' positions and assembly points in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] region, inflicting the following losses: 64 were killed and 2 tanks, 1 armored personnel carrier and 4 vehicles were destroyed. In addition, two guns, large quantities of light weapons, TOW missiles with their launching pads and all sorts of hardware were seized. All are serviceable.

I. Our units engaged enemy vehicles and personnel in the Abadan region, inflicting the following losses: 26 were killed and 4 tanks, 4 vehicles and 1 radar unit were destroyed. Thus, known enemy losses total 215 dead, 8 tanks, 1 armored armored personnel carrier, 16 vehicles, 4 guns of various calibers, 1 rocket launcher, 2 observation posts, 1 radar unit and 2 helicopters, in addition to large quantities of light weapons, TOW missiles with their launching pads and all sorts of hardware.

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: 20 martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: the following were damaged: three tanks, one personnel carrier, three vehicles, two guns and one excavator.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 17 January 1981

Communique No 220

JN181739 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1550 GMT 18 Jan 81

[Communique 220 issued by the Armed Forces General Command 18 January 1981]

[Text] Baghdad, 18 Jan (INA)--In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

Our armed forces continued their activities in their operational sectors. Following are the results of our forces' activities last night and today:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. Our units engaged an enemy concentration opposite their position in the Gilan-e Gharb area, forcing them to retreat after sustaining 27 killed.
B. One excavator was destroyed in the Sumar region.
C. Our units, using their various weapons, attacked an enemy concentration opposite their positions in the Sayf Sa'd area, killing 55. The rest fled.
D. Our units killed eight enemy personnel and destroyed two vehicles and one stockpile of hardware in the Mehran area.
E. Our units found a serviceable enemy gun in the Dezful area. The gun was left behind during previous battles.
F. Our units killed seven enemy and destroyed one stockpile of hardware in the Shush area.
G. Our units destroyed one tank, one armed personnel carrier and one vehicle in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] area.
H. Our units engaged with artillery and mortars a group of enemy vehicles in the Abadan area, destroying seven vehicles, one a private care.

This makes the total known enemy losses: 97 dead, one tank, one armored personnel carrier, 10 vehicles, 1 gun, 1 excavator and 2 stockpiles of hardware.

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: 9 martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: One tank, four vehicles and one gun were damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 18 January 1981

BADRAN INTERVIEWED ON MIDDLE EAST POLICY, AS-SADAT

JN160912 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 16 Jan 81 pp 1, 13

[Report on interview given by Prime Minister Mudar Badran to Arab journalist Nasir ad-Din an-Nashashibi in Amman, identified as "text" and also published on 16 January by the Kuwaiti paper AL-ANBA']

[Excerpts] The material of this article comprises the response to a single question I addressed to Jordanian Prime Minister Mudar Badran when I met him in his office in Amman on the first day of this week. I asked him: How does Jordan think? When the Jordanian prime minister asked me what I meant by my question and which topics I wanted him to address, I said: Everything.

I then asked the Jordanian prime minister: What is Jordan's current policy on the Middle East issue: He replied: We don't change. We rejected Camp David despite all of the pressures brought to bear against us. When people talk about the Jordanian option, we answer them by saying that there is no solution bearing such a name. This is a term fabricated by the enemy and the Israeli Labor Party and picked up by the Western media for the same purpose. There is only one solution: The Palestinian solution. Jordan's support for the PLO on this issue needs neither explanation nor clarification.

I asked the Jordanian prime minister: Do you expect to hold diplomatic contacts with the new U.S. administration soon?
Mudar Badran replied: We refused to receive Henry Kissinger because he is an inveterate Zionist. Fortunately for the new administration, Kissinger came to the region before the new president assumed office. Had he come a month from now, for instance, we would have said that the new U.S. policy is a continuation of the tragedy masterminded by Henry Kissinger.

I asked the prime minister: What about Anwar as-Sadat?
He replied: We have no contacts with him; he is completely rejected.

I said: What about President Reagan's invitation to his majesty the king?
He replied: We don't freeze ourselves or enclose ourselves in a shell. We are constantly on the move. Jordan cannot abandon support for any solution, initiative or step that it believes to be in the interest of the holy Palestinian cause.

I asked Badran: How will the war between Iraq and Iran end, in your opinion?
He replied: The war will end when a genuine and effective Iranian authority, capable of negotiating and bearing the responsibility, emerges. No one threatens Gulf security as much as Iran. You can quote me on this as a Jordanian official. Once these threats disappear, security and stability in the area will be restored.

I asked him: What about Jordan's economy?
He replied: We live in a region where oil is abundant, but we have no oil. Each dollar increase in oil prices burdens Jordan's Government with a $15 million commitment. We want to build ourselves up on the economic, military and social levels. The recent visit to the United States by Ash-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces, was an annual routine visit to finalize the arms deals concluded between us and the United States. As I have said, it was a scheduled visit.

Our relations with the PLO are good and our objectives are clear. The members of the joint committee visited us recently and we discussed all points in total sincerity and understanding. There were no differences in viewpoints.

ROCKETS FIRED AT LIBYAN PEOPLE'S BUREAU 16 JAN

NC170659 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 17 Jan 81

[Text] Four rockets were fired at the Libyan People's Bureau in Eden Rock in western Beirut's southern suburb before midnight yesterday. The rockets exploded smashing windows at the embassy.

Responsibility Claim

NC170837 Paris AFP in English 0828 GMT 17 Jan 81

[Excerpt] Beirut, 17 Jan (AFP)--The Libyan "People's Bureau" (embassy) here was badly damaged by four shells fired at it last night.

Responsibility for the attack was claimed by an anonymous spokesman for the "supporters of the Shi'ite Imam Musa as-Sadr," according to several newspapers today.

DELEGATION LEAVES FOR AT-TA'IF CONFERENCE 17 JAN

NC170830 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 17 Jan 81

[Text] The official Lebanese delegation to the Islamic foreign ministers' conference left Beirut for At-Ta'if this morning. The delegation is led by Minister of State Joseph Abu Khatir, who is accompanied by Lebanese Ambassador to Morocco 'Adil Ishma'il. The Lebanese ambassador to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia will join the delegation.

PRESIDENT SARKIS MEETS WITH SOVIET AMBASSADOR

NC161357 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 16 Jan 81

[Excerpts] The Soviet ambassador today called on His Excellency President Ilyas Sarkis as part of the president's handling of diplomatic affairs. After the meeting a dialog took place between the ambassador and newsmen.

In answer to a question the ambassador said: We exchanged viewpoints on the situation in Lebanon and in the area.

The ambassador was also asked about his view of the Islamic summit conference in At-ta'if. He answered: It is very difficult for us to say what results this summit conference will produce. However, we wish to see it conveyed in a positive spirit that will entrench sound relations between Arab and Islamic states and defend the Arabs' rights that have been encroached upon by Israel.

The Soviet ambassador was asked if he expected any Lebanese-Soviet cultural developments or any exchange of visits by diplomats from both states for the sake of further cooperation. He said: We regard our relations with Lebanon as active and good in all domains. We stand ready to activate these relations and ensure their continuity in all fields because we support Lebanon's struggle for its unity, sovereignty and Arabism and for enabling the Lebanese people to overcome all their domestic issues.

MINISTER INTERVIEWED ON MIDEAST ISSUES, U.S.

JN181935 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 18 Jan 81

[Text] Syrian Information Minister Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad has stressed that Syria, under the historic leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad, has not and will not be intimidated by pressure. Syria's national determination takes into consideration only the national interest and the will of our people.

In an interview published in the first edition of the English-language SYRIA TIMES today, the information minister said that Al-Asad's Syria is strong on its own as it is strong in the solidarity of the Arab masses with it and their support for Syria's steadfastness. Today's Syria represents the stronghold of progress and the forward trench in combating imperialism and Zionism for the world, and for the Arabs, it represents the alert conscience.

He said the future is ours because we are building it with an Arab face, will and destiny.

Regarding what observers have had to say about grave possibilities to be witnessed by the region and in which Israel will be the spearhead of aggression against Syria in the framework of implementing the Camp David conspiracy, the minister said: We have been in a continued state of war with the Zionist enemy since it occupied Arab territories. Calm at the cease-fire lines at any time does not mean that a state of war does not exist as proved by [word indistinct] past experiences. He added that the state of war with Israel will not end as long as Israel occupies an inch of Arab soil and as long as Palestinians' inalienable national rights are not secured. He added: We in Syria are ready to face any possible developments of the situation on the cease-fire line. He said: We have occupied land that must be liberated; we have usurped rights that must be regained. We do not bargain over our principles and do not relinquish our rights. We will continually build up our intrinsic force as the foundation for our struggle and means for victory and liberation. He explained that it is Syria's strength that is the strength capable of confrontation and that no one can ignore it. He said: We are sure of the future and of the justice of our cause because our belief in our rights is unlimited and because our will is free and firm in approaching this future.

On the stand on the Jordanian regime and King Husayn's march in the coming stage, Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad stressed: We will not allow the emergence of a new As-Sadat on our border under any circumstances or pretext. He reiterated that this decision embodies the higher pan-Arab interest, fends off harm to our Arab nation and saves it much catastrophe.

On Syria's stand on the new U.S. administration under Reagan, the minister explained that Syria has no personal stand toward any U.S. president. Syria has a firm and principled stand on the U.S. aggressive policy which tries to impose hegemony over people, oppress them and prevent their progress. He said: We do not observe a U.S. policy in the Middle East outside the framework of the Israeli resolve and Israeli policy. The Israeli resolve is aggressive in its nature, and Israeli policy is expansionist and racist. We in Syria will change our view of the new U.S. administration in as much as the U.S. stand on absolute alignment with Israel's aggression and its expansionist and racist trend changes and becomes more just, right and balanced.

In this respect, the minister said the question to be asked is: Is it the aim of the new administration to side with justice and stop the continued U.S. aggression carried out by Israel against the Arab people? He answered his question: We have not read any statement by any Reagan aide which denotes, even slightly, any movement from this stand. We have seen more insistence on adopting the former U.S. administration's policy on the Middle East.

ALGERIA

IRAN, U.S. REACH AGREEMENT ON HOSTAGE ISSUE

For 17 January and subsequent Algiers radio reportage on the negotiations between Iran and the United States for the release of the U.S. hostages and related developments, see the Iran section of the 19 January South Asia DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

LIBYA

COMMUNICATIONS SECRETARY MEETS IRANIAN COUNTERPART

LD181314 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 18 Jan 81

[Text] The brother secretary of the General People's Committee for Communications and Maritime Transport this morning met in Tripoli with Musa Kalantari, his Iranian counterpart, and the accompanying delegation who are now on a visit to the Jamahiriyah. Discussions covered cooperation between the two countries and ways of developing and bolstering it.

JANA REPORTS SPEAKERS, ACTIVITIES OF ARAB CONGRESS

Jallud Speech on Chad

LD161754 Tripoli JANA in English 1659 GMT 16 Jan 81

[Text] Tripoli, 16 Jan (JANA)--Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud addressed the 2nd session of the Arab People's Congress (A.P.C.) stressing the outstanding concept of the A.P.C. which represents an introduction to a large scale awakening of the masses. Such action, he added, conforms with our ideological beliefs and our faith in the masses and the role of the Arab popular movement. He said: "If tragedy lies in the absence of the masses, the solution, therefore lies in their presence. Through their spontaneous action, the masses were the major weapons of "Abd an-Nasir when fighting reaction, colonialism and Zionism. We in Libya, as revolutionaries and believers in the masses and the people's authority, work towards restoring the masses' role in the popular movement and giving it its ideological dimensions.

The Arab masses should have a strategy and an ideology according to which they fight and struggle. The action should be of certain characteristics, indications and effects and not mere tactics and limited official movements, or a tool in the hands of a certain regime. Even though it encompasses the Arab progressive regime, the Steadfastness Front should not be linked to the masses' movements and the Arab People's Congress (A.R.C.).

The colonialist and fascist forces will conspire against their historic action because the success of the Arab masses to take over control of their own destiny and to take their responsibilities directly.

"The A.P.C. should not turn into another picture of Arab solidarity but should mobilize the masses towards and overall popular uprising. Only then, the Arab nation starts its cultural revival."

"We in the Jamahiriyah expect the A.P.C. and the Arab trade unions and vocational organization to play their role in the strategic counteroffensive against colonialist military bases."

"France can not out-wit us and move her agents in Africa, so if she wants to talk to us, she should address us directly."

"The fuss made of the Libyan presence in Chad is only a cover and a pretext for the French troops to go to Central Africa, Senegal, Gabon and Sudan to join the Egyptian forces there.

"When we went to Chad to help the legitimate government we prepared ourselves to face all possibilities and conspiracies."

"We respect the will of the Chadian people and we do not, therefore, impose any sort of ties on them, but our intervention was according to an official request and a joint treaty. Consequently, the only side which has the right to terminate our help to Chad is the legitimate government there."

"We are aiming to restore security and peace in Chad and Africa and hope the Chadian people will start rebuilding their country through the help of the neighboring African countries as well as the U.N. Organization."

"What logic is that which prevents us from coming to the aid of a legimate government. I am surprised at that logic which bans any help to a legitimate government and allows invasion and occupation. As-Sadat has criticized France for its delays in intervening in Chad and also criticized U.S.A. for not intervening in Iran, while Egypt announced she will send troops to Somalia and France is still occupying part of the African Continent."

"We can not accept the situation in which the Libyan people are attacked from Chad, and can not possibly accept imposing a regime on Chad, hostile to the Libyan people."

"Any sabotage or aggression against the Chadian people coming from Chad's neighboring countries will be punished."

"We have expected the thanks because we stopped the rebellion in Chad and put an end to the civil war there that may have spread throughout Africa."

Speakers, Decisions

LD161926 Tripoli JANA in English 1709 GMT 16 Jan 81

[Text] Tripoli, 16 Jan (JANA)--The Arab People's Congress Permanent Secretariat submitted its annual report to its Secretary General Mr. Omar al-Hamidi on the organization's activities, yesterday. The report stressed the necessity for national struggle and solidarity among Arab radical forces as well as unifying different factions of the Arab liberation movement and for strengthening ties with world liberation, democratic and socialist forces. The report also stated the Secretariat's activities on the Palestine cause, as well as its activities on Lebanon, Egypt and Arab Gulf and Jazirah.

At this session, the head of South Yemen delegation delivered a speech on behalf of President 'Ali Nasir, in which he said that the holding of this session at this critical and complex stage of the Arab situation, due to the vicious imperialist attack on the region, is a necessity and of vital importance. He pointed out that the Arab region became a first priority in the colonialist countries' plans because of the formers' oil resources. They line up these fleets in the Arabian Sea, the Gulf, and the Mediterranian Sea, set up their military bases in Oman, Egypt and Somalia and place their rapid deployment forces on full alert.

He also accused the imperialist forces of creating obstacles for North and South Yemen, to slow the process of the two countries' unity.

Mr. Abu 'Ali Mustafa, deputy-secretary general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine P.F.L.P., delivered a speech in which he hailed the Libyan people's progressive stands against imperialism and its allies in the region, and their support of the Palestinian revolution.

The holding of this session, the PFLP leader said, coincides with the recent escalation of the Palestinian masses' resistance against the (Israeli) oppressive measures.

The secretary-general of the Lebanese Christian-democratic organization greeted the Syrian-Libyan merger and called upon the Lebanese Arab masses to affiliate to it to further strengthen the stand against imperialist schemes. He also hailed the transformation of the Libyan embassies abroad into people's bureaus to by-pass the traditional diplomatic relations.

The representative of the African National Congress delivered a speech on behalf of the African delegations in which he condemned the colonialist plots against Africa. He also expressed his relief at the ending of the civil war in Chad and affirmed that Chad has become a sovereign independent country. He pointed out that the colonialist countries are trying to regain control over some of the Third-World countries especially in Africa to exploit the natural resources of these countries and to hit the national liberation movements in Palestine, Namibia, South Africa, Western Sahara, El Salvador and Bolivia. At the end of his speech, he called for wiping out the racist regimes in South Africa and occupied Palestine.

The representatives of the Italian Communist Party delivered his party's message in which he pledged his unconditional support for the Arab nation's control over the cause of Palestine. He also affirmed the support of the Italian progressive forces for the Palestinian cause, and stressed the importance of solidarity among the world progressive forces especially in the Mediterranian region to combat the colonialist presence in the region which takes the form of military bases.

The congress approved the annual report submitted by the Permanent Secretariat.

Four committees were set up, one is the Political Committee, to discuss the political report and the final statement, another in the Organizational Committee to draft the organizations bye-laws and the budget for the people's struggle fund, the third is the Charter Committee and the fourth is a committee responsible for suggestion about the activities of the 1981.

DAILY ATTACKS FRENCH, AMERICAN AFRICAN POLICIES

LD162022 Tripoli JANA in English 1855 GMT 16 Jan 81

[Text] Tripoli, 16 Jan (JANA)--Under the heading 'Another Harlot Called France' the Jamahiriyah daily published in Tripoli said that France the younger sister to American imperialism, plays its imperialistic role following the distribution of world tasks among the United States, being the imperialist leader, and its junior partners, to confront the dangers of a world revolution and to alleviate the budget of right wing coups planned by the United States.

It added that France is attempting to turn back the wheels of history, in an attempt to wrest the historical victory achieved by the Chadian people, after a hemorrhage which lasted 20 years, by using its lackeys in Central Africa, as a bridgehead to invade the liberated and unified Chad, thus exposing the interests of the French people to danger. The newspaper referred to the French military buildup and massing of troops in Central Africa in order to bolster her colonialist role in the heart of Africa, which is hostile to the triumph of the Chadian people, and a threat to its security and unity.

It said France does not play this dirty role in Africa by alone [as received]. American and reactionary states stand behind her spearheaded by the lackey Egyptian regime in a desperate attempt to find a new solution for the severely deteriorating world capitalist crisis, by going back and resorting to forms of old imperialism, so that America could devote itself to confronting the world radical forces and explosive revolutionary areas in the third world which directly threaten vital American interests.

MINISTER REPORTEDLY SAYS CHAD ELECTION SET FOR 1982

LD161518 Paris Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 16 Jan 81

[Text] The Libyan foreign affairs minister has announced to Radio France International that the elections in Chad will take place in February 1982, but that it is up to the Chadian people to decide whether they want to organize them before this date.

MORE EMBASSIES TRANSFORMED INTO PEOPLE'S BUREAUS

Tehran Embassy

LD081236 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 8 Jan 81

[Text] According to the report of the Central News Bureau, the employees of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah Embassy in Tehran today held a ceremony changing that country's embassy into the People's Bureau of the Arab Jamahiriyah of the Libyan people. Mr Sa'd Mudbir, the country's ambassador in Tehran, was chosen as the secretary of the committee of the people's bureau. The employees also elected five members of the administrative committee of the people's bureau, three of whom were from among the employees. The other two members are outside the staff of the people's bureau in Tehran. At the moment they are in Libya, but according to the popular decision they are dutybound to accept this post.

According to our correspondent's report, these ceremonies were held at the premises of the Libyan People's Bureau in the presence of Iranian guests and correspondents, and began with the chanting of some verses from the glorious Koran. Then one of the people of Libya who has come to Tehran explained the way the Libyan People's Bureau will be run and the goals of the people's bureau, saying: According to the Koranic verse which says "the affairs should be dealt with through consultation", today the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah Embassy will be changed into a people's bureau. This decision arises from the fact that the people's bureau represents the people of Libya; its duty is to strengthen relations between the two nations of Libya and the Islamic Republic of Iran. The transformation of the embassy into a people's bureau expresses the wishes of the people of Libya to establish friendly relations with the people of the world. He added: We are interested in the Islamic Republic of Iran and also call the rest of the people of the world to popular revolutions, while the Western propaganda organizations distort our work and abuse it. The work of this bureau is to establish relations between the Libyan nation and other nations through the nations. [as heard]

Guinea-Bissau Embassy

LD141026 Tripoli JANA in English 0850 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] Tripoli, 14 Jan (JANA)--Libyan masses marched yesterday on the Libyan Embassy in Guinea-Bissau and turned in into a people's bureau run by a people's committee. The people's committee issued a statement which Guinea-Bissau's radio reported in parts. The statement praised the relations of solidarity exisiting between the peoples of Libya and Guinea-Bissau, and said that the take over of the Libyan Embassy fell within the frame-work of affirming people's power, strengthening and promoting the relations between the two peoples.

Canberra Embassy

OW141421 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] Libya has recalled its diplomatic staff from Canberra and announced the closure of its embassy. The diplomats have been replaced by four elected representatives who have been established in what they call a Libyan People's Bureau. A spokesman for the bureau would continue to carry out the functions of an embassy but would not seek diplomatic status. Libya has over the past 15 months replaced many of its embassies throughout the world with people's bureaus.

Portuguese Embassy

LD162036 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1830 GMT 16 Jan 81

[Text] Tripoli, 16 Jan (JANA)--The Libyan Arab masses marched on the embassy of Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah in Portugal and transformed it into a People's Bureau.

MOROCCO

EUROPEAN DELEGATION ARRIVES, MEETS WITH OFFICIALS

16 Jan Arrival

LD162206 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 16 Jan 81

[Excerpt] A European parliament delegation arrived this afternoon in Morocco on a factfinding visit to our country with a view to discovering the truth about the situation in our recovered regions. In this context the delegation will have contacts with members of the chamber of deputies and some officials of his majesty's government. It will also visit our Saharan provinces in order to learn about the military situation and hold contacts with the population and their representatives.

Bouabid, Baddou Meetings

LD180706 Rabat MAP in Arabic 1300 GMT 17 Jan 81

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Maati Bouabid this morning received at his office members of the European parliamentary delegation who arrived in Morocco yesterday on an exploratory visit to acquaint themselves with the true conditions in the recovered territories. The audience was attended by the Moroccan ambassador to Brussels and a number of Chamber of Deputies members.

Earlier, the delegation members headed by General [name indistinct] had talks with Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs Abderrahmane Baddou is the presence of the Moroccan ambassador in Brussels, a number of Moroccan deputies and Omar Balkoura, head of the American and European desk at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation.

The delegation will be visiting our Saharan regions to inspect the military situation on the spot and contact the inhabitants and their elected representatives.

SUDAN

NUMAYRI REPORTEDLY CALLS FOR MEETING ON CHAD

LD142008 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 14 Jan 81 EA

[Text] The leader-president, Ja'far Muhammad Numayri, has renewed the invitation to hold a meeting of the committee of 12 concerning the Chadian problem in Khartoum.

A responsible source at the Presidency of the Republic stated that the renewal of the invitation was mentioned in two messages sent yesterday by [words indistinct] the leader-president to President Siaka Stevens, current chairman of the OAU and President Eyadema of the Republic of Togo in reply to two invitations he received from [words indistinct] to participate in Togo's national day celebrations, which began the day before yesterday, and to discuss the Chadian question.

The SUDANESE NEWS AGENCY reported that President Numayri explained to Presidents Siaka and Eyadema his inability to participate on this occasion because the invitation reached him a short time before the celebrations. Meanwhile, he stressed the need to hold a meeting (?officially) [words indistinct] to discuss [words indistinct] to guarantee the independence and territorial integrity of the neighbor (?Chad).

CHADIAN PRESIDENT'S AIDES REPORTEDLY DISAPPEAR

JN171639 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1445 GMT 17 Jan 81

[Text] Ndjamena, 17 Jan (SUNA)--Reliable sources in Ndjamena have said that (Ibrahim Yusuf), a close aide of Goukouni Oueddei, disappeared some time ago when he was touring the eastern region of Chad. His disappearance coincides with that of (Mahmud 'Abd ar-Rahman), another official in the Goukouni Oueddei regime, who disappeared under mysterious circumstances.

FRG PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION ENDS VISIT 17 JAN

JN171623 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1410 GMT 17 Jan 81

[Text] Khartoum, 17 Jan (SUNA)--The FRG parlimentary delegation led by (Otto Wul) returned home today after a 1-week visit to Sudan. The delegation met with President Numayri, People's Assembly Speaker Ar-Arashid at-Tahir and other senior government officials.

BRIEFS

AUSTRIAN OFFICIAL IN ALGERIA--Algiers, 14 Jan (APS)--Mr Abdelghani, prime minister, audienced, Wednesday, at the "Palais du Gouvernment", Mr Adolf Nussbaumerh, Austrian secretary of state to the development and economic affairs. The talks, held in presence of Mr Mohamed Yala, minister of finances, centred on the means to strengthen relations of cooperation between the two countries. On the other hand, Mr Ali O'Bouzar, secretary of state to foreign trade, audienced, at the seat of the Ministry of Commerce, Mr Adolf Nussbaumerh. Talks between the two secretaries of state centred on the development of commerical and cooperation relations between the two countries. Possibilities of multilateral cooperation were also evoked during that audience. [Text] [Algiers APS in English 1433 GMT 14 Jan 81 LD]

MOROCCO-INDIA COOPERATION AGREEMENT--An agreement for cooperation between Morocco and India was signed today at the premises of the Secretariat of State for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation. It was signed on behalf of Morocco by M'hamed Boucetta, minister of state in charge of foreign affairs and cooperation, and on behalf of India by S. Chavan, minister of education. [Text] [Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 12 Jan 81 LD]

TUNISIA-GDR COOPERATION--East Berlin, 14 Jan (TAP)--Tuniso-East German negotiations took place from Jan 9 to 13 in East Berlin to prepare the programme of cultural and scientific cooperation for 1981-82. These negotiations made it possible for both sides to exchange views on the various aspects of cooperation and led to the signing on Tuesday of a cooperation programme qualified as satisfactory. [Text] [Tunis TAP in English 1413 GMT 14 Jan 81 LD]

LIKUD KNESSET FACTION MEETS WITH BEGIN 16 JAN

Kaufman Interview

TA161225 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1155 GMT 16 Jan 81

[Interview by correspondent Arye Golan with acting Likud Knesset faction chairman MK Hayim Kaufman immediately after the meeting with Prime Minister Menahem Begin at the prime minister's office in Jerusalem--live]

[Text] [Question] Today you conducted the meeting. What resolutions did you reach, Mr Kaufman?

[Answer] Our decision was that the faction authorizes the government to set the date for the elections in 1981.

[Question] In other words, the faction did not decide whether it is in favor of or against advancing the elections? Are there differences of opinion on this issue within the Likud faction?

[Answer] I would not say that differences of opinion exist. We expressed various views. Of course, the majority would like to have a stable government with a strong backing which will be allowed to continue in service until November 1981, by which time it will be able to carry out and complete all its missions in the economic sphere--namely, curbing inflation--in the social sphere--by building apartments and all the other issues.

[Question, interrupting] I understand that it was understood that this is not the case and the government does not enjoy a strong enough parliamentary majority to hold on until November. This at least is how the prime minister expressed himself at the meeting.

[Answer] Since the situation is not so clear, we authorized the Cabinet to decide for itself on the date of the elections.

[Question] Well, then, what will happen now? Will the government decide on the date on Sunday [at the scheduled Cabinet meeting]?

[Answer] I did not say Sunday. I said we authorized the Cabinet to decide. The ministers, together with the prime minister, will sit and decide what the date will be and what will be the best time for the Cabinet to appear and compete for the Israeli voter's mandate. Nor do I think we ruled out the possibility of reaching an arrangement with the Alignment over a date. This, perhaps, may have been misinterpreted. At any rate, in principle we authorized the government to decide when, at what date, to set the elections for the 10th Knesset.

[Question] Finally, regarding the mood and atmosphere at the meeting today with the prime minister. Is it your impression that the elections will be held in either June or July?

[Answer] This was my feeling but this is not certain. In any case, the atmosphere in the meeting was very good and people are gearing up, trying to prove to the Israeli voter to what extent this government operated in so many areas: political--the peace treaty--and social, economic; and it is a fact that inflation is beginning to be contained. It is a fact that the December index rose only by 6 percent.

[Golan] Well, maybe we should leave this for the election campaign which should open very shortly. So much from the prime minister's office.

Begin's Views

TA161323 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 16 Jan 81

[Text] In a meeting with members of the Likud Knesset faction at noon, Prime Minister Menahem Begin said that had the government enjoyed a majority in the Knesset he would have been the first one to favor holding elections on their legal date, on 17 November. This is reported by our Knesset correspondent, Arye Golan.

The prime minister said that so long as the coalition had 61 votes it did not have to fear for its existence. However, if elections were to be held in May or June, the government would have served 4 years and nobody would be able to say that it collapsed.

Upon the withdrawal of the RAFI faction, the coalition has been left with only 58 Knesset members, including 'Aqiva Nof--who joined the Likud--and the Democrats, who have suggested that the Knesset disperse in June.

The participants in the meeting (?concluded) that the prime minister favored holding elections in either June or July. Regarding the appointment of a finance minister, Mr Begin said that he had been urged to appoint a minister at once. However, he had no authority to name a finance minister without taking into consideration the various factions of the Likud which were exerting pressure. In this context, Mr Begin recalled his meeting with the Liberal ministers yesterday. He said that on the eve of the elections the Likud will go to the public and show the government's achievements, first and foremost, the peace treaty. The prime minister rejected the proposal to hold the elections in August since during that month many people would be traveling abroad.

During the meeting, Minister Eli'ezer Shostak proposed to hold a referendum on the question of whether the nation wanted to have elections now. Mr Begin rejected this proposal, saying that this would be impossible since a Knesset majority was also needed to hold a referendum and nobody could assure the Likud that it now enjoyed such a majority. At the end of the 3-hour meeting the prime minister's proposal that the Likud faction empower the government to hold elections during 1981 was accepted. Our correspondent points out that most of the speakers at the meeting advocated holding early elections. Mr Begin said that the government would decide on this on Sunday.

CABINET DECIDES ON 7 JUL KNESSET ELECTIONS

TA181141 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1128 GMT 18 Jan 81

[Text] We will now go over to the prime minister's office and Shim'on Schiffer with a report on the Cabinet session which just ended and the decision it made.

[Schiffer--live] Well, the Knesset elections will be held earlier than scheduled, on 7 July. The Cabinet will already tomorrow submit a draft bill to the Knesset on this issue. The prime minister announced this to a group of journalists who were awaiting him at the entrance of his office.

[Begin recording] [Begin] The Cabinet today decided to submit to the Knesset a draft bill to dissolve the Knesset. Our proposal is that the new elections to the 10th Knesset will be held on 7 July 1981. We are preparing the draft bill which will be submitted to the Knesset presidency, either later today or tomorrow.

Today we did not make a decision regarding a new finance minister. We will hold further consultations on this issue. I want to express my hope that the appointment to this post will be announced this week. [end recording]

[Schiffer] Menahem Begin added that if his colleagues elected him he would head the Likud list to the 10th Knesset. As stated, no decision was made concerning the finance minister's replacement, the man who will replace Yiga'l Hurvitz. Prior to the Cabinet meeting Menahem Begin told the liberal ministers that he agreed with their demand that the finance minister should be a member of their party. Following the Cabinet meeting, Minister David Levi wanted to react to the threats made last night by several circles in the Liberal Party [regarding the appointment of Yoram Aridor as finance minister].

[Begin recording] [Levi] The Herut Movement did not threaten, whereas the liberals are threatening--I believe that they know what threats are. In any case, even at this time, I would suggest to them that they not make any threats and rather deeply ponder this question. In my opinion, Yoram Aridor is the appropriate man. He is talented and enjoys almost the absolute support of the Cabinet. He also stands [the best] chance of being accepted by the Knesset. At this stage, it would not suggest that we engage in prestige struggles. [end recording]

Additional issues discussed at the Cabinet session: Deputy Prime Minister Professor Yiga'el Yadin expressed his objection to the decision made by the ministerial committee on settlement affairs last week to establish three new settlements in Judaea and Samaria. This issue will aparently also be discussed by the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee.

The Cabinet also heard a report on the autonomy talks from the director general of the Interior Ministry, Hayim Kubersky. This is all from the prime minister's office.

Further Report

TA181604 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 18 Jan 81

[Report by political correspondent Gad Becker on the 18 January Israeli Cabinet meeting--recorded]

[Excerpts] It appears that the Cabinet decided to hold the elections on the last possible date on which its various components--the Democrats on the one hand, and the Herut ministers on the other hand--could accept. The cabinet could see no objective reason for early elections, government circles are saying this evening. Therefore a date was picked which will enable it to complete legislative and other activities not yet concluded. Following the party-level discussions and consultations held in recent days and weeks, today's Cabinet discussion was almost technical in nature.

The prime minister opened by saying that he would like the government to continue in office until November but the situation dictates a different course. The prime minister lauded the NRP for its handling of the crisis because the NRP opened various options and worked in coordination with the other government components. In contrast, Begin mentioned the bill calling for the Knesset's dissolution submitted by the Democrats' Binyamin Halevi. The prime minister implied that there was no alternative to advancing the elections.

The date proposed by the Likud--a date that was crystallized in the course of the meeting--is 7 July. Among the reasons that led to this date being chosen: it is the first date following the end of the school year on which the elections can be held. Since most of the polling booths are located in schools, it was noted in the Cabinet meeting, the election will not interfere with studies. Other technical reasons of a similar nature were also put forward.

No vote was taken. There was no voice count but the two NRP Cabinet ministers--Dr Yosef Burg and Zevulun Hammer--abstained [as heard] and will hold consultations with their party concerning the date for holding the elections.

This is the first time an Israeli Government will itself have submitted a motion to dissolve the Knesset; it is a precedent. Following is the wording of the resolution adopted today by the Cabinet: The Cabinet resolves to propose to the Knesset that the ninth Knesset be dissolved prior to the end of its term and elections for the 10th Knesset be held on Tuesday, 5 Tamuz 5741--7 July 1981.

Alignment Opposition

TA181341 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 18 Jan 81

[Text] The Labor Party spokesman has said that the Alignment will not agree to holding the elections on the date set by the Government: 7 July. The Alignment is of the opinion that the setting of this date proves that the Cabinet fears the citizens' decision in the voting because the Cabinet wants the election to be held at a time when many people will be away from Israel. The Alignment Knesset faction chairman, Moshe Shahal, thinks that the elections should be held prior to the school summer recess, that is, before the end of June. According to Shahal, if the Alignment and the Likud do not agree on the date, the Alignment will submit its own draft bill for the dissolution of the Knesset, as soon as this coming Wednesday.

The Shinuy faction has announced that if several proposals are submitted for holding early elections it would support the proposal suggesting the earliest date.

The Hadash Knesset faction regards the Cabinet decision as an artificial attempt to extend its existence in utter contrast to the interests of the public, the economy and the state.

Correspondent Amnon Nadav reported various reactions. Quoting circles in the coalition parties, our correspondent adds that, in their opinion, an agreed formula could yet be found between the Cabinet decision and the Alignment's proposal and that the election could be set for the end of June. In contrast, other circles in the coalition expressed their opinion that the Cabinet's proposal is certain to obtain a majority in the Knesset. Therefore, there was no need to negotiate with the opposition parties in an attempt to reach an agreed date.

The Cabinet decision issued at noon stated that the Cabinet would, as soon as tomorrow, submit its draft bill for the dissolution of the Knesset and for advancing the date of the elections to 7 July. The NRP ministers noted that their party was inclined to further postpone the elections until 16 July.

AMBASSADOR TO CAIRO RETURNS FOR CONSULTATIONS

TA181214 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 18 Jan 81 pp 1, 2

[Text] Israel's ambassador to Egypt, Dr Eliyahu Ben-Elisar, and his wife Nitza arrived from Cairo at the end of last week for a 5-day visit. The ambassador came for consultations and on Friday he conducted lengthy talks with Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and Foreign Ministry Director General David Qimhi.

Today he will meet with Prime Minister Begin for a review of Israel's relations with Egypt. Ambassador Ben-Elisar last month talked with As-Sadat in the latter's village of Mit Abu al-Kawm.

It has been reported that he will also use his stay in Israel to receive the Egyptian parliamentary delegation which will arrive in Israel tomorrow as the Knesset's guest. The delegation, which is headed by the chairman of the Egyptian People's Assembly Foreign Relations Committee, Dr Muhammad 'Abdallah, includes representatives of the People's Assembly and the Consultative Council as well as parliamentary correspondents.

Regarding the Israeli students' delegation visit in Egypt last week it was learned that prior to its arrival in Egypt Ambassador Ben-Elisar expressed his readiness to meet with it and a date was even set for this. However, the delegation's schedule precluded the meeting. The embassy in Cairo had also arranged a meeting between the delegation members and the Egyptian ruling party's secretary, Dr Mustafa Khalil.

HA'ARETZ correspondent 'Amos Ben-Vered reported:

It was learned that a sharp clash occurred between the students' delegation and Dr Khalil during the delegation's visit to the ruling party's building last Wednesday. The delegation members accused Mustafa Khalil of statements that are harmful to peace.

Tzahi Hanegbi (the chairman of the National Students' Union) and Dror Zeiger, the leader of a U.S. students' group, headed the Israeli delegation.

Tzahi Hanegbi submitted to Dr Khalil a document composed of two parts: A. A political part which contained mainly Dr Khalil's and Hasan Tuhami's statements on Israel being an ephemeral phenomenon and on the Jews not being a people. B. An academic part containing quotes from books on Israel used in the Eguptian universities.

Among other things these books state that the ancient Jewish kingdom was only a passing phenomenon, lasting no more than 170 years on the Middle East map. Abraham, Isaac and Jacob are described as Muslims in the books. Prophet Moses is described as an Egyptian and today's Jews constitute a religion, not a people.

Tzahi Hanegbi read the document to Khalil adding statements made by Khalil himself in the Tel Aviv University. Tzahi Hanegbi said this "makes the Israeli student feel that we fell prey to history's most sophisticated fraud."

Dr Khalil grew pale--according to testimony by the participants in the meeting--but did not deny his remarks. He said that two-thirds of the Jews are not Israeli and their ties with the countries in which they were born are much tighter than with Israel. This, he said, undermines one of the most important elements which form a people. He also said that in Israel, too, extremists such as Rabbi Kahana make radical statements. To this Tzahi Hanegbi answered that Rabbi Kahana does not hold an official position while Tuhami and Khalil represent the Egyptian Government.

EGYPTIAN OFFICIALS CITED ON AUTONOMY TALKS DELAY

TA181918 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 18 Jan 81

[Text] The Egyptian foreign minister, Kamal Hasan 'Ali, said today the holding of early elections in Israel is an internal Israeli affair and this is the reason he does not want to comment on it. However, Egyptian officials in Cairo said tonight that the bringing forward of the elections will result in checking the progress of the autonomy talks in the next few months, that is, until a new government is formed in Israel. Yesterday Foreign Minister 'Ali said the summit conference of the U.S. and Egyptian presidents and the Israeli prime minister will not be held before the fall.

UGANDA, KENYA, ZAMBIA, TANZANIA END 1-DAY SUMMIT

LD171910 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 17 Jan 81 EA

[Text] The 1-day summit meeting of the presidents of Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania and Zambia has ended in Kampala after agreeing that ministers from Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania should compile a report on the sharing of assets of the defunct East African community.

Speaking to newsmen at the end of the meeting, President Obote said that four presidents also agreed that ministers from all states should compile a report for their consideration on the revival of the East African shipping line, which was formerly owned by all the four states.

The four leaders also discussed bilateral trade between all the states with the view to helping the economies of the individual states and the region as a whole. They also agreed that there should be a new political goodwill to promote these states.

President Obote told pressmen that they also discussed nation-building, both in the individual states and regionally. They also discussed efforts to establish peace and security both internally and regionally.

The Ugandan leader was grateful to the three leaders for coming to hold talks on Ugandan soil. He hoped that this will convey to the rest of the world that Uganda wants peace, understanding and is in the process of discovering itself. In so doing, the president added, Uganda needs the support of everybody, particularly its neighbors. He said Uganda had a lot to learn from all the other three East African states.

Addressing the news conference, President Moi of Kenya urged Ugandan leaders to put Ugandan interests before personal ambitions and said that the best gift to Ugandans in 1981 is peace and security and to make them realize once again the freedom they gained 20 years ago. He said Kenya would help Uganda in its endeavor to rebuild and rehabilitate themselves and said he supports the Uganda Peoples Congress because Kenyans want peace, particularly for the future children of Uganda.

The Kenyan delegation consisted of President Moi; the minister of home and constitutional affairs, Mr Charles Njonjo; the minister of foreign affairs, Dr Robert Ouka; the minister of state in the office of the president, Mr Godfrey Kariuki; and other high-ranking Kenyan officials.

The Zambian delegation comprised President Kenneth Kaunda; the minister of foreign affairs, Lameck Goma; the minister of power, transport and works, General Chinkuli; the minister of finance, Mr Musokotwane; the minister of commerce and industry, Mr Chisupa; and the chairman of the Political and Legal Committee, Mr Kamanga.

The Tanzanian delegation consisted of President Nyerere; the minister of information and culture, who is also acting minister of foreign affairs, Mr Mkapa; and Brig Kimario, minister of home affairs.

President Obote's team was comprised of the vice president, Mr Paulo Muwanga; the prime minister, Mr Otema Alimadi; the commander of the Uganda National Liberation Army, Maj-Gen Tito Okello; the [word indistinct] Oyite Ojoki; the minister of state in the president's office, Mr Chris Rwakasisi; and the minister of state for foreign affairs, Dr Picho Owiny.

Moi Address to Rally

LD171926 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 17 Jan 81 EA

[Text] His Excellency President Daniel Arap Moi today urged Ugandans to unite and forge ahead in the important task of reconstruction in order to build a strong united Ugandan nation under the leadership of President Milton Obote. He said Ugandans should place the interest of the country above petty personal ambitions. President Moi assured the cheering Ugandans who had gathered at Kololo Hill near Kampala that Kenya would support them in their task of reconstruction of a new Ugandan nation.

President Moi was speaking to thousands of Ugandans who had waited all day long to greet the visitors at Kololo Hill after they had concluded their high-level discussions held at the international conference center in Kampala under the chairmanship of Dr Milton Obote. Ugandan television covered the Kololo reception live and many Ugandans watched and witnessed the occasion on their television sets at home. Others who attended the talks were the Tanzanian president, Dr Julius Nyerere and the Zambian President, Dr Kenneth Kaunda.

At Kololo, Dr Obote introduced his guests to the people who chanted and sang demanding a united east and central africa for the benefit of all. President Moi was due back home any time now.

Participants' Communique

LD172300 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 17 Jan 81 EA

[Text] The presidents of Tanzania, Kenya and Zambia have returned home after holding talks with President Obote in Kampala. At the end of their 5-hour talks, the four presidents issued a joint communique before the other three left Entebbe for their respective homes. The following is the full communique:

The presidents of Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia met in Kampala on 17 January 1981 to discuss and review matters of common interest in the region. The meeting took place in an atmosphere of cordiality and frankness.

At the end of a 5-hour meeting:

1. They agreed to develop their respective nations in the spirit of mutual understanding, cooperation and partnership for the benefit of all their peoples.

2. They committed themselves to ensure peace and security within and between their respective states, and jointly within the region as well as help each other individually and jointly to achieve and maintain peace and security. To this end they agreed to revive the Interstate Security Committee.

3. On the question of the assets of the East African community, the presidents of Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda agreed to constitute an authority to receive reports from ministers.

4. On the question of the East African shipping line, the presidents of Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia agreed to meet and receive reports.

5. The presidents agreed to establish political will [as heard] as a basis for the promotion of trade and other forms of cooperation. To this end they agreed to hold frequent meetings to create the necessary climate.

ETHIOPIA

FOREIGN MINISTRY DENIES SOMALI ALLEGATIONS

LD181458 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1000 GMT 18 Jan 81 EA

[Text] A socialist Ethiopian Foreign Ministry spokesman has described Somalia's allegation that Ethiopia had massed troops on the Ethiopian-Somali border for an invasion of Somalia--an allegation subsequently propagated by Western media--as a piece of Somalia's usual propaganda based on lies and fabrications. This is what the spokesman said about the recent allegation made by the Mogadishu regime--a regime well known for its hypocrisy and international treachery--and which was subsequently echoed by the Western mass media.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman said that the aim of Somalia's lies and fabrications was to expedite receipt of military aid it was to obtain from known quarters and, in particular, to create suitable conditions for the establishment of U.S. bases in Berbera and other parts of Somalia and the deployment of U.S. interventionist forces in the region.

The spokesman went on to say that the Somali ruling cliques allegation that Ethiopia was massing an invasion force on the Ethiopian-Somali border was designed to obfuscate its own intention of invading Ethiopia, aided and abetted by the troops of seven countries currently stationed in Somalia.

The spokesman added that the current propaganda maneuvers were mainly aimed at misleading international opinion in addition to the calculated objective of securing massive aid from Somalia's imperialist and reactionary patrons.

Stressing that this was not the first time that Somalia had made blatant allegations about an intended invasion by Ethiopia, the spokesman said it was a fact that Somali troops had been fighting against [words indistinct] the Ethiopian revolutionary army. The spokesman reiterated that the Somali expansionists were desperately trying to blame others for their own machinations.

The spokesman went on to say in his statement that the U.S. military aid program was coordinating the services of military personnel from six or seven foreign countries, who were either on their way to Somalia or were already there, making military preparations.

The spokesman said that the first country to send a mercenary force equipped with modern weapons to the U.S. imperialists in a bid to make good its repeated threats against Ethiopia was Egypt.

He said that Mogadishu's current hue and cry was a cover-up for its collusion and reaction and its invasion plans.

The spokesman said that Ethiopia would persevere in its pursuit of its peaceful policy and in its desire for peace in accordance with the basic tenets of its foreign policy. He added that Ethiopia would continue its struggle to preserve peace and to promote peaceful development through peaceful coexistence with the aim of enhancing cooperation with all its neighbors.

Concluding, the spokesman stated what our communist leader, Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, has repeatedly stressed: If the aggressors--Mogadishu and its collaborators--are prepared to respect the principles of the United Nations, OAU and nonaligned charters applying to territorial integrity and noninterference in internal affairs, then socialist Ethiopia will, as always, be prepared to turn its swords into ploughshares and do away with its current military commitments.

CAPE VERDE ISLANDS

PRESIDENT SAYS PAIGC TO CEASE BEING SUPRANATIONAL

AB190958 Paris AFP in English 0858 GMT 19 Jan 81

[Excerpts] Praia, Cape Verde Islands, Jan. 19 (AFP)--President Aristides Pereira, who is also general secretary of the PAIGC [African Independence Party of Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde] party which has ruled the Cape Verde island and its sister state of Guinea-Bissau since independence, has indicated that the party will have to cease as a supranational body following the military coup in Bissau on November 14.

Mr Pereira told the Verdian wing of the party, in a report to a meeting which began here on Friday, that the coup had created an institutional vacuum on a supranational level which could threaten his country's security if allowed to continue. This vacuum, which had now lasted for more than two months, could also pose a threat to the Cape Verde island's political and economic life, Mr Pereira said in the report, which has made public here late yesterday.

Mr Pereira, while reaffirming his country's allegiance to the principles and aims of the party's founders, said that there would have to be changes in the organization of the Verdean wing of the party to enable it to take over full and sole responsibility for the running of the country.

His administration would have to analyse the consequences of the coup for the legal, constitutional, economic, foreign policy and defence sectors in the Cape Verde islands, he added. The two countries had a common army and, in some cases, joint embassies, that came under the umbrella of the PAIGC.

The Cape Verdian president did not close the door entirely on all ideals of unity between the two former Portuguese colonies, but he said that the coup had made the plan, as conceived by the PAIGC, nonviable for an indefinite period. This plan presupposed the existence of a common ideological platform, an identical conception of society, mutual confidence and a serious and equal approach to responsibilities, he added.

THE GAMBIA

FINANCE, AGRICULTURAL MINISTERS REPLACED

AB181008 Paris AFP in English 0926 GMT 18 Jan 81

[Text] Banjul, Gambia, Jan 18 (AFP)--A weekend government reshuffle in this small West African state has seen the removal from office of one of the enclaves leading political figures. Muhamadu Cadi Cham, who had been finance and trade minister since 1977, was replaced by Saihoa Sabally in what was seen as move by the president, Sir Dawda Jawara, to rid himself of an increasingly troublesome colleague. He had been criticised for arrogance by the Gambian opposition and relations with other ministers were strained.

Mr. Cham, a former member of the opposition United Party, was first elected to parliament in 1965. Re-elected in 1970, he switched allegiance to the ruling People's Progressive Party and was immediately made secretary of state for information and tourism. He was subsequently education, youth and sports minister and economic and industrial development minister.

Mr. Sabally, formerly economic planning and industrial development minister, was replaced in his post by a new member to the government, Muhamadu Mane.

In another change, Agriculture and Natural Resources Minister Janneh Daffeh was replaced by Seyni Singhateh, formerly parliamentary secretary at the Economic Planning and Industrial Development Ministry. A Ministry of Water Resources and Environment was also created in connection with drought affecting the enclave and conferred on Omer Jallow.

GUINEA

PRESIDENT: UN INTERVENTION IN CHAD MAY BE ASKED

AB181328 Paris AFP in English 1310 GMT 18 Jan 81

[Text] Dakar, 18 Jan (AFP)--The heads of state of Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Senegal and Guinea, mandated by Africans leaders at last week's Lome meeting to seek a solution of the Chadian crisis, may call on the United Nations to intervene in the war-ravaged state, according to Guinea's President Sekou Toure. In a Radio Conakry broadcast monitored here, the Guinean president said the four countries leaders could meet with U.N. Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim in Freetown, Sierra Leone, as early as Tuesday. He added that the four heads of state had asked Mr. Waldheim to come and see them and that he had agreed. The Guinean president said that he believed the United Nations would fully honor the confidence which, he said, the Organization of African Unity had in it.

GUINEA-BISSAU

JOAO BERNARDO VIEIRA ON CONTACTS WITH CAPE VERDE

Plans for Cape Verde Visit

AB170740 Paris AFP in French 1615 GMT 16 Jan 81

[Excerpts] Bissau, 16 Jan (AFP)--A delegation from Guinea-Bissau will leave for Cape Verde to hold talks with the Cape Verdian authorities on the future of the African Independence Party of Guinea Bissau and Cape Verde [PAIGC]--a political group common to both countries. This information was given by Maj Joao Bernado Vieira, president of the national revolutionary council which has been in power since the 14 November coup d'etat that toppled President Luis Cabral's government. He made this known during an opening session of the Guinea-Bissau national council--this country's national branch of the PAIGC. However, the date of the visit and the composition of this delegation was not made known.

In his address, Major Vieira denounced the glaring injustices committed by the former regime during the past 6 years, noting especially that a number of leaders were arbitrarily dropped from the PAIGC administration. He also blamed Mr Cabral of adopting a policy of nepotism and aiding friends and accused Mr Pereira of never reacting to this antidemocratic behavior by the former Guinean head of state.

What else could we have done besides a coup d'etat? Major Vieira asked, explaining that the coup d'etat helped to save the PAIGC in Guinea-Bissau.

On the other hand, President Vieira toned down the accusations against Mr Cabral by the revolutionary council on the discovery of common graves of the former regime's opponents by declaring that the former president lacked authority to such a point that the security agencies, which were directly under him, operated without his knowledge and committed such [word indistinct] massacres--according to the revolutionary council, 500 people were killed in 6 years.

On the other hand, Mr Vieira regretted President Pereira's refusal to come to Bissau at his invitation for an on-the-spote appraisal of the situation after the 14 November coup d'etat.

Finally, he announced the formation of a provisional government soon to replace the current caretaker government formed following the coup d'etat, the strengthening of the activities of the PAIGC in Guinea-Bissau, the election of a permanent commission and the appointment of a national secretary.

Further Report

LD171500 Maputo Domestic Sercive in Portuguese 1900 GMT 16 Jan 81 EA

[Excerpt] Guinea-Bissau: Joao Bernardo Vieira, president of the Guinea-Bissau revolutionary council, has reiterated that the leaders of his country desire the maintenance of the African Party for Independence in Guinea and Cape Verde [PAIGC] as a supranational party and as a force guiding Guinean and Cape Verde societies.

EIGHT NEW MEMBERS ELECTED TO PAIGC COUNCIL

AB181315 Paris AFP in English 1248 GMT 18 Jan 81

[Text] Bissau, 18 Jan (AFP)--Eight new members have been elected to the national council of the ruling party in power in Guinea-Bissau following a coup d'etat in the West African state on November 14, a source said. The eight, replacing members who died before or during the coup or who have resigned, include the six members of the revolutionary council which seized power in the coup that overthrew President Luis Cabral. They are Victor Saude Maria, Iafai Camara, Manuel Saturnino, Joao da Silva, Samba Lamine Mane and Buota Nbatcha, and also two people associated with the revolutionary council, Joseph Turpin and Victor Freire Monteiro.

The move was an apparent attempt to legitimize the change of power in November within the context of the African Party for the Independence of Cape Verde and Guinea-Bissau, the PAIGC.

A secretariat of the national council comprising Tiago Aleluia Lopes, Didelis Cabral de Almada, Manuel dos Santos, Domingos Brio and Mario Cabral as an executive body has also been elected, the source said.

Elections to a permanent committee of the party national council, responsible for implementing party decisions, were also held, the source said. This body is composed of President of the revolutionary council Joao Bernardo Vieira and its vice-president, Victor Saude Maria, and Paulo Correia, Samba Lamine Mane, Tiago Aleluia Lopes, Vasco Cabral and Carlos Correia.

MALI

GOVERNMENT STATEMENT ON EXPULSION OF LIBYANS

AB161740 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 16 Jan 81

[Excerpts] The ministerial council met yesterday, Wednesday, 14 January 1981 [as heard] in an ordinary session at the conference hall of the [word indistinct] palace under the chairmanship of Gen Moussa Traore, the head of state and government.

Concerning the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, the ministerial council was informed of a very important matter concerning the transformation of the embassy of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah into a people's bureau. The following is the full text of the statement on the matter:

The Republic of Mali and the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah established diplomatic relations based on mutual respect and in conformity with existing international conventions, as well as within the spirit of the charters of the United Nations and the OAU. The Government of the Republic of Mali, for its part, considers that these relations, which were legally established and accepted by the two sides in accordance with the full interpretation of the agreement on establishing diplomatic relations signed by the two countries, constitute the appropriate framework of developing, consolidating and improving fraternal relations and cooperation between the two peoples and countries.

By this unilateral decision, which does not conform with the provisions of Article 14 of the Vienna convention on the establishment of diplomatic relations, Libya has demonstrated that it no longer has diplomats in Mali as defined by the above mentioned convention.

Consequently, the Malian government has decided that all Libyan nationals residing in Mali under the auspices of the embassy should leave Malian territory. Libyan nationals resident in Mali for (?other purposes) are not affected by this decision.

On the other hand, the Malian government explains that this decision is not (?meant to sever) diplomatic relations between the two brotherly (?Islamic) countries, members of the OAU, of the Islamic Conference, of the nonaligned countries, of the Sahel states etc, who maintain excellent bonds of cooperation.

NIGERIA

GOUKOUNI EXTENDS VISIT FOR MORE TALKS WITH SHAGARI

AB161920 Paris AFP in English 1901 GMT 16 Jan 81

[Text] Lagos, 16 Jan (AFP)--Chadian President Goukouni Oueddei will have a second round of talks with President Shehu Shagari in Lagos tonight, having delayed his return to the Chadian capital, Ndjamena, until tomorrow, official sources said here.

Mr Goukouni, who is accompanied by his Vice President Abdel Kamougue, had 2 hours of (?talks) yesterday with Mr Shagari, who had earlier returned from talks on Chad with other African leaders in the Togolese Capital, Lome.

The two Chadian leaders, who were initially scheduled to return to Ndjamena today, arrived here yesterday on board a Nigerian (?air force plane). Their departure, according to the source, had been delayed until tomorrow because Mr Shagari had to spend all today at a cabinet meeting.

SENEGAL

DIOUF INTERVIEWED ON TIES WITH LIBYA, FRANCE

LD182314 Paris Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 18 Jan 81

[Telephone interview of Senegalese President Abdou Diouf, by unidentified studio newsman--live]

[Excerpts] [Question] We are now going to Dakar, to the palace of the president of the republic, Abdou Diouf. Mr President, thank you for joining us today. This is the first time since becoming president of the republic that you have had the chance to speak on a situation which is all the more interesting since we have just been following, with the whole world, what has been happening in Lome. It is a situation which is also interesting this Sunday because, according to reports we have, you received a message from Colonel al-Qadhdhafi yesterday, and of course it had to do with the Chad affair. Can we have details, or do you still want to keep secret this message sent by the Libyan president?

[Answer] Thank you. President al-Qadhdhafi did indeed send me Mr 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki, his secretary of state for foreign affairs, with whom we first discussed bilateral relations between Libya and Senegal, which, as you know, are not good. We broke diplomatic relations with Tripoli. And we stressed strongly to the representative of Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi the need for Libya to make a certain number of gestures to permit an improvement in these relations because Senegal wasn't the one which worsened these relations. It was Libya in the first place which worsened them, especially by maintaining in its camps a certain number of Africans, Senegalese, to speak of my country, members of a so-called Islamic legion, which was to be the spearhead of the creation of a future united states of the Sahel. That in any case is the information we had. Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's special envoy told me it wasn't true. I told him I would wait and see, and that in any case it was up to Libya to make gestures which would then allow a dialogue to take place with the aim of an improvement of bilateral relations between the two countries.

Of course we discussed the Chad problem and I told President al-Qadhdhafi's minister that Senegal, which attended Lome, expected Libya to respect Africa through the Lome decision.

[Question] Mr President, now that you are taking up the destiny of Senegal after the long term in office of President Senghor, are you worried about the climate of destabilization in Africa?

[Answer] I am worried about this climate of destabilization in Africa, but the resolution and the determination of the African heads of state who were present at Lome begins to cheer me. I think that Africa is in the process of pulling itself together, and that faced with a destabilization situation it will speak more and more loudly and clearly, and will not be content with speaking: It will act. All we want is for the powers, the great powers, to come to our aid, as for example in the case of Chad. You saw how we decided on the immediate withdrawal of the Libyan forces in Chad, and how we decided to set up an African force which will be present throughout Chad. But obviously we lack means, and we are counting on the United Nations to give us the logistic means enabling these troops to fulfill their mission, and this will also allow us to bring about as quickly as possible free and democratic elections allowing the Chad people to say which is the government of their choice, and by means of the government and its options, to take other measures, both internally and internationally. I think we can move very fast because the problem is not so much a problem of principle--everyone is now agreed--it is rather a question of practical implementation on the ground. And we will not (?abandon) this practical implementation on the ground, and I hope Libya will respect us, and will respect the decisions we have made, by withdrawing its troops in time.

[Question] And for this African armed force, will you ask for France's help, Mr President?

[Answer] We will ask, we have decided to ask for the help of the United Nations. It is probable that after contacting the secretary general the problem will go to the Security Council and there we expect support from France and from the other permanent members of the Security Council so that there is no veto when a vote is taken to give this African force the necessary means to fulfill its mission.

[Question] Do you feel that Africa would be better off if Colonel al-Qadhdhafi did not lead Libya, as President as-Sadat has wished in many of his speeches?

[Answer] The least one can say is that the current behavior of Colonel al-Qadhdhafi is not designed to bring peace into African relations. My wish is that Colonel al-Qadhdhafi understand that it is not in the interest of his people, nor in the interest of Africa to continue to behave as he does. I said this too to his special envoy, who assured me that Libya's desire was not for expansion, but a desire for peace and progress and for friendship with all the African peoples.

[Question] Mr President, another two quick questions. During his recent trip to Africa, Jean Francois-Poncet, the French minister of foreign affairs, was keen to recall that France will always be at the side of Africans who might ask for its help. What do you think? Is it still necessary today?

[Answer] Yes, I think it is still necessary today. You mentioned just now the threat of destabilization. It is certain that the decisions which we have made on Chad, if they are applied, will be able to remove this destabilization, but it is also necessary to have preventive measures. And from this point of view it is necessary that all African states which have particular links with France, and even other states which have the chance of appealing to France, that all these African states should be assured that if they were threatened from outside, France could fly to their aid. In any case, I am convinced that the possibility of French intervention for an African state which is attacked is a good thing as a precaution against destabilization.

[Question] Well, a final question, Mr President, as I thank you again for having been our guest today live from Dakar. We talked earlier with the Moroccan prime minister about the clear sky between Paris and Rabat. Is there a cloudless sky between Paris and Dakar, as far as political relations are concerned?

[Answer] The relations between Paris and Dakar are (?thriving). We (don't need to) congratulate ourselves on our excellent relations. We have privileged cooperation, which I intend to maintain, to develop and to consolidate. And I am very happy with our current relations with the French authorities.

UPPER VOLTA

OFFICIAL POSITION ON ISSUES CONCERNING LIBYA

AB162212 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 16 Jan 81

[Excerpt] Lt Col Felix Tiemtarboum, the minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation, gave the offical position of Upper Volta on the transformation of the Libyan Embassy in Ouagadougou into a people's bureau and the proposed merger between Libya and Chad.

[Begin recording] On 8 January 1981, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation received verbal notice from the people's bureau of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah in Upper Volta (?informing) it of a communique from the People's committee of the transformation of the embassy of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah into a people's bureau under the direction of a people's committee.

An reaction to this information, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, refering to the joint communique which was published in (?June) 1972 by the governments of Tripoli and Ouagadougou, on 12 January 1981 verbally notified the Embassy of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah in Upper Volta that by this communique the two states had decided to establish diplomatic relations at ambassadorial level, and that in this regard the content of the verbal notice was not acceptable and was rejected both in its form and its substance due to its unilateral nature.

Given the relationship existing between the two countries, prior consultation in this situation would have been appropriate. We have warned the Embassy of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah that any such unilateral attitudes would definitely have very serious consequences for relations between the two countries. In response to this verbal notice, the Embassy of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah gave us an assurance that the status of the Libyan Embassy in Upper Volta will not be changed in any way. We must also report that the communique announcing the transformation of the embassy also mentioned a people's committee which comprises persons who do not have diplomatic status. These people have already left the territory of Upper Volta. Nevertheless, we must remain vigilant.

The facts of which I have just informed you constitute only part of the problem in our relations with a country that we call a brother--Libya. As you are aware, our continent today is going through an important period of its history. The threats of destabilization which are weighing down on the countries that have common borders with the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah--some of whom are our direct neighbors--concern us in many ways.

What we may call the Chadian tragedy cannot leave us indifferent. Upper Volta, which is a founding member of the OAU--an organization dedicated to the stability of borders, the recognition of member states and noninterference in the internal affairs of countries--deplores and condemns the proposed Libyan merger with Chad in the name of one of the most perfect principles of the United Nations--that is, the right of all peoples to self-determination. [end recording]

ANGOLA

DECREE RESTRICTS RIGHT TO RENOUNCE CITIZENSHIP

LD171502 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0530 GMT 17 Jan 81 EA

[Text] A decree issued by the Council of Ministers and published in the official gazette, announces measures aimed at prohibiting the right to renounce Angolan nationality or to adopt any other nationality in order to serve the opportunistic interests of some Angolan citizens. The decree indicates that although the state recognizes the right of any citizen--as provided for in the law--to choose the nationality most convenient for him, safeguarding the Angolan people's interests calls for taking determined steps to prevent individuals from using that right to serve their own opportunistic interests.

The Council of Ministers has therefore decided to deny to those Angolans citizens who have renounced or may renounce their Angolan nationality the requisite work permits which allow them to work with any state body, or in state, private or nationalized enterprises or any other enterprise or private organization. They will not be permitted to transfer foreign exchange under different conditions from those under which other Angolans are allowed to transfer foreign exchange. They will also not be allowed to transfer material belongings, even if they leave the country for good: They will only be allowed to take with them belongings for immediate personal use.

Work contracts are to be nullified by the contracting parties on the date when the decree comes into force or whenever any citizen renounces his Angolan nationality. Contracts for teachers and the registration and admission of students in Angolan educational institutions will be similarly annulled.

The Ministries of Labor, Social Security, Education, Foreign Relations, the State Security Organization, and the National Bank of Angola will be informed by the Ministry of Justice of all cases of Angolan nationality renunciation or of option for another nationality.

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON SOUTH AFRICAN ATTACKS

LD181014 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0700 GMT 18 Jan 81 EA

[Text] We will now read to you a Defense Ministry communique issued in Luanda yesterday on South African racist attacks on our country.

As the talks promoted at the highest international level--with the United Nations--were going on in Geneva to find a peaceful and negotiated settlement for the accession of Namibian territory to independence, and on the conflict between the people of Namibia and the South African racists, the racists continued to carry out their armed actions against our territory in a bid to undermine the talks so that they could continue to plunder Namibia's wealth.

In these attacks they carried out every kind of genocide against the defenseless population, and stepped up airspace violations with aircraft supplied by imperialist countries to sow death and destruction in this part of Africa, aiming particularly at frontline countries.

On 11 January, South African aircraft flew over the town of (Ongiva) and Changonga village at 1328 and 1335 respectively. At 1411 on 13 January, aircraft of the same air force in a provocative action overflew Cahama village. On the same day the aircraft also overflew Changonga and Ruacana villages at 1345 and at 1359. On 13 January a squadron of South African aircraft also overflew (Ongiva), capital of (Cunene) province, between 1324 and 1347.

On 14 January, between 1145 and 1226, aircraft of that regime overflew Changonga and Cahama villages. On the same day 13 Alouette-3 helicopters belonging to the apartheid regime carried out reconnaissance missions in the Mongua area.

Also on 14 January ground forces of the racist army of South Africa, consisting of a motorized company, assembled south of Chieta in the (Onaina) area. They immediately sent ground reconnaissance groups towards the village of Ovu, which is about 15 KM east of Chieta.

On 15 January we also registered other airspace violations over Cuamato from 1050 to 1108. On that day at about 1600 ground forces of racist South Africa supported by six Puma helicopters and a squadron of Mirage aircraft attacked our troops deployed at Cuamato municipality, resulting in violent fighting which is still going on.

On our side a number of soldiers have been killed and wounded.

The South African enemy has suffered a number of dead as a result of our forces' counter-offensive. In the face of this development the South African racist Air Force stepped up its reconnaissaince flights over the whole of (Cunene) and Huila provinces as far as the town of Lubango.

Today, 17 January, between 0800 and 0830, South African reconnaissance aircraft flying at an altitude of between 2500 and 4000m overflew the Changonga, Naulila and Mongua areas.

The Angolan Defense Ministry wishes, through this communique, once again to alert the international public to this aggressive, adventurist and warmongering act by the Pretoria regime against our fatherland's territory. This demonstrates in a clear manner the sham intentions of the South African racists to solve the Namibian problem. Our armed forces will know, as they have always done, how to give a precise response to the adventures of the aggressive army of South Africa.

The struggle continues. Victory is certain. Office of the Defense Ministry, Luanda, 17 January 1981.

[Signed] Pedro Maria Tonha Pedale, minister of defense

ZIMBABWE

NKOMO'S PARTY DISCUSSES WITHDRAWAL FROM COALITION

AB181021 Paris AFP in English 1014 GMT 18 Jan 81

[Excerpt] Salisbury, Jan 18 (AFP)--Leaders of the minority Patriotic Front (PF) Party in Zimbabwe's coalition government were continuing a marathon crisis meeting here today over the demotion of party leader Joshua Nkomo in last weekend's cabinet reshuffle. The Central Committee, which began meeting yesterday amid calls from sections of the party for it to withdraw from the coalition, resumed today after 10 hours of discussion failed to produce a decision. The government reshuffle removed Mr. Nkomo from the Home Affairs (Interior) Ministry, which gave him responsibility for the police, to the low-key Public Service Ministry.

Mr. Nkomo has said he cannot accept the cabinet changes because they strip the PF of any responsibility for security. He says this is a violation of an agreement he had with Prime Minister Robert Mugabe when the coalition was formed with the country's independence in April last year.

Party Vice-President Josiah Chinamano said he expected the meeting to continue for most of today. "We could not finish our work in one day. I can't say any more than that," he said.